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OUR WINTER ISSUE.

ON January 30, 1904, the Winter Issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* will be published. The illuminated cover has been in the hands of the printers since August, and it will be an exquisite accompaniment to the contents of the number, especially any circulars or price-lists which are entrusted to us for distribution to the best 12,000 buyers of druggists' goods in the British Empire. That this is an effective way of advertising the following letter shows:

The Publisher, November 25, 1903.
THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
42 Cannon Street, E.C.

DEAR SIR,—We are obliged to you for your favour. We shall be pleased to again take this space for a four-page inset in your issue of January 30, and, as you say, you have no need to enlarge upon the excellence of these special issues of yours. As we have told you before, we find this one of the most remunerative advertisements which we at present have.

Yours faithfully,

This letter is from a firm who have had an inset in the *C. & D.* on previous occasions, and they are most experienced advertisers. Our Publisher will supply full information to any business-house that applies to him.

Summary.

THIS NUMBER completes our sixty-second volume. An index is given between p. 1064 and p. 1065.

A DEPUTATION, consisting of the President and Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. Carteighe, and the Secretary, had a conference with representatives of the Board of Inland Revenue on Monday. No official statement is to be issued to the Press (p. 1056).

WE are able to state that one result of the conference is that cordial relations between the Board and the Society have been established. We also learn that the whole question of Exemption 3 will be reconsidered by the Board in the light of information supplied by the deputation, and some modification of the present conditions, so as to permit inclusion of all who may legally call themselves "chemists," may be expected (p. 1052).

AN important contribution to the chemistry of ionones has been made by Dr. Chuit, and is epitomised on p. 1054.

MR. E. M. HOLMES makes still clearer the position of *Abies* and *Picea* in the vegetable kingdom and in the B.P. (p. 1065).

WE describe some chemists' calendars on p. 1043, and invite others to be sent to us for a similar purpose before the end of the year.

HORSE-TAILS are a genus of plants, which, in combination with the weight of pharmaceutical botany, have moved a contributor to a quaint diversion (p. 1062).

FOR selling "Cheshire Bottle" unstamped and without a medicine-vendor's licence a general dealer has been fined at Newcastle-under-Lyme (p. 1058).

A NEW ADULTERANT OF CITRONELLA OIL is noted by Messrs. Parry and Bennett. It is alcohol, and the test communicated to the Chemical Society last week does not detect it (p. 1061).

A RATHER UNUSUAL LETTER respecting substitution appears on p. 1065. It is from a correspondent who has no interest in the matter from any trade standpoint, and merits consideration.

THE STUDENTS' CORNER competition this month is characterised by a facsimile reproduction of the report of the first prizeman (Mr. F. J. Watt), which is exceptionally artistic and neat (p. 1034).

IRISH PHARMACISTS are moving in regard to the regulation of company-pharmacy in Ireland. It is suggested that a conference of bodies interested (exclusive of Great Britain) should be held and common action be taken (p. 1038).

THIS week's Kaleidoscope includes an illustration by Mr. F. Rimmington of a diversion upon known, admitted, and approved remedies, and a sketch by Mr. Fred Reynolds of the leading pharmaceutical counsel for the defence (p. 1048).

THE PANTOMIME SEASON is mainly responsible for the publication of a piece from a pantomime-book on p. 1064. The actors cast for the chief characters were Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Herbert Campbell, and Mr. Wilson Barrett.

A COMMERCIAL CASE of more than usual interest dealing with contracts in "futures" is reported on p. 1057. Mr. Justice Darling considers such contracts gaming. We explain what they are on p. 1055, and how they affect dealings in shellac and the like.

OUR TOWN TRAVELLER completes his year's record with accounts of several visits, including notes on saccharin-manufacture, the coming of Odol, and an inspection of a St. Louis Exhibition exhibit got up by Messrs. Stafford Allen & Co. (p. 1042).

THERE was some plain speaking about the relations between the North and South portions of the Pharmaceutical Society at a dinner of the Edinburgh Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy last week, and the Principal declared that the pharmaceutical examinations are more or less a lottery (p. 1047).

MR. J. F. TOCHER, addressing the Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association, replied to the critics of his territorial Council-representation scheme, maintaining that it would be beneficial to the Pharmaceutical Society, and that it is better than other schemes put forward. The meeting agreed with him generally (p. 1044).

WE give further particulars regarding the exemption from stamp-duty of bulk quantities of dutiable lozenges, and in order that the concession may be extended to other medicinal articles in bulk quantities to be repacked by retailers, we ask our manufacturing and wholesale friends to favour us with specimens of packages (p. 1056).

IN reviewing the year 1903 we confine our remarks to the most important legislative, administrative, and commercial events, showing how opinion in regard to company-pharmacy has progressed, explaining how the Medicine-stamp Acts cases have affected the trade, and describing market-movements in leading drug-staples (p. 1051).

Students who adopt a *nom de plume* must adhere to it throughout the tournament.

REPORTS.

The alloy distributed to students on November 25 had approximately, the following composition :

Tin ...	...	...	...	...	72
Lead ...	...	...	...	...	18
Cadmium ...	...	...	...	...	5
Zinc ...	...	...	...	...	5
					100

It also contained iron in small quantity, but was substantially free from traces of other elements.

Samples of the alloy were distributed to 103 students, and forty-three reports upon its composition were sent in for examination.

The failures in the detection of the chief constituents of the alloy were: Tin, 8; lead, 4; cadmium, 33; zinc, 3. The presence of the iron was overlooked by fifteen students.

The preparation of a solution suitable for analysis did not present any difficulty. When gently heated with aqua regia the alloy was rapidly attacked, and after the excess of the acids had been driven off by evaporation on the steam-bath, a residue was left which dissolved easily on boiling with dilute hydrochloric acid. The solution so obtained yielded a deposit of crystals of lead chloride on cooling. After removing these crystals by filtration and diluting the filtrate largely with water, and then saturating the liquid with hydrogen sulphide, an abundant brownish precipitate was obtained, which consisted mainly of stannic sulphide, but also contained the whole of the cadmium and part of the lead as sulphides. The filtrate from this precipitate contained the zinc and the small quantity of iron, both of which were readily recognised.

A number of students chose to disintegrate the alloy by means of hot concentrated nitric acid (instead of employing aqua regia), whereby the tin was obtained as insoluble metastannic acid while the other metals passed into solution as nitrates. The solution of nitrates so prepared and the solution obtained by dissolving the metastannic acid in hydrochloric acid were then either examined separately or mixed together prior to examination. This mode of dealing with the alloy did not present any particular advantages over the one outlined above.

The failure on the part of over 75 per cent. of our correspondents to detect the cadmium (which was present in no insignificant proportion) furnishes a striking object-lesson in connection with the perennial difficulty experienced in endeavouring to impress upon students the facts that the sulphides of cadmium, bismuth, and lead are quite markedly attacked by even moderately dilute hydrochloric acid, especially when hot, and that the precipitation of these sulphides can only be made approximately complete by taking steps to ensure that the hydrochloric acid present is highly dilute, and that the solution is finally saturated with hydrogen sulphide when quite cold. There is reason to believe that nearly all of our correspondents who failed to detect cadmium did so because the hydrogen sulphide precipitates which they obtained did not contain cadmium sulphide, or, at most, only contained traces of it. The cadmium (often along with part of the lead, and possibly also of the tin) passed into the filtrate and gave rise to confusion later, when metals belonging to other groups were being sought for and unexpected reactions due to its presence were observed.

The report which has been placed first in order of merit this month is of so neat and artistic a character that we reproduce it in facsimile, but the original is executed in

three colours. We congratulate its author on his skill, both as analyst and as draughtsman.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to FRED. J. WATT, Hingham, Attleborough, Norfolk.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

JAMES MCC. EDWARDS, London College, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

1. Correspondents who are unqualified :

Fred. J. Watt (first prize)	97	Hypo...	...	...	77
Jas. McC. Edwards (second prize)	96	Beta-Naphthol	...	...	76
Morphia	88	Aves	...	...	73
S. T. Bennett	85	Q. E. D.	...	...	72
Alizarin	85	R. W., W. R.	...	...	72
A. S. Birkbeck	84	W. F. Jackson	...	...	71
Poly	83	Radix	...	...	68
Venus	83	Stellaria	...	...	68
Eugenol	81	Nondum	...	...	62
J. S. W.	81	Samuel Kelly	...	...	55
Durus	80	Maney	...	...	51
Silver	80	Johnstone	...	...	44
Alex. T. Hope	79	Xenon	...	...	42
Alchemist	79	G. K. F.	...	...	41
W. P. P.	79	Liaph	...	...	35
G. J. Lusher	77	L. S. Lindley	...	...	14

2. Correspondents who are qualified, or who have not indicated that they are unqualified :

A. J. D.	74	Maire	...	...	47
Alchemy	61	M. H. W.	...	...	76
Aloe	79	Sulphion	...	...	78
Cryptopine	95	Tannin	...	...	78
Danwer	47	W. M. D.	...	...	79
F. H. W.	76				

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FRED. J. WATT.—In a quantity of the alloy equal to that sent to you, we failed to obtain unmistakable evidence of the presence of a trace of arsenium. We entirely failed to detect any trace of copper.

J. MCC. EDWARDS.—The trace of calcium which you detected was derived, most likely, from the filter-papers you employed. For delicate analytical work, papers which have been extracted with hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acids should alone be employed. Read the first sentence of reply to F. J. Watt.

MORPHIA.—You appear to be under a misapprehension as to the solubility of cadmium iodide. It dissolves in slightly more than its own weight of water at 20° C.

S. T. BENNETT.—If the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate was produced in a sufficiently dilute solution it ought not to have dissolved completely in ammonium hydrosulphide, since it ought to have contained the whole of the cadmium as sulphide. You overlooked the possibility of the alloy containing magnesium.

ALIZARIN.—We regard with the greatest disapproval the reporting of reactions which have not been tried and of results which have not been obtained. You report at least two reactions which you did not observe.

ALCHEMIST.—While it is desirable to pass hydrogen sulphide through a hot hydrochloric acid solution in order to ensure complete precipitation of arsenium if present as arsenic acid, care must be taken to cool and dilute the solution and again saturate it with hydrogen sulphide in the cold, so that lead, bismuth, and cadmium may not wholly or in part escape precipitation as sulphides.

BETA-NAPHTHOL.—You omit to give any account of the portion of the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate which did not dissolve in ammonium hydrosulphide, and you appear to have overlooked the possible presence of aluminium in the alloy. We know of no test for potassium superior to that of Carnot (*vide C. & D.*, November 30, 1901 [vol. lix], page 832): it is applicable after metals

belonging to other analytical groups, and also ammonium salts, have been removed.

AVES.—You erroneously assume that the aqua-regia solution of the alloy could only contain nitrates and chlorides, and that phosphates must be absent. Had the alloy contained phosphorus or arsenium, phosphoric acid or arsenic acid would have been present in the solution. The announcement of the exercise did not state that the alloy would consist of metallic elements only.

W. F. JACKSON.—Although the portion of the hydrogen-sulphide precipitate which did not dissolve in ammonium hydrosulphide was black, it contained (or ought to have contained) some cadmium sulphide. The yellow colour of the latter was obscured by the black lead sulphide.

MANEY.—You do not seem to have had any of the lead or cadmium precipitated as sulphide on passing hydrogen sulphide through the acid solution of the alloy. If so, the solution must have contained a great deal too much free acid or the acid was not sufficiently diluted.

LIAPH.—The metallic film should have been tested with 20-per-cent. nitric acid before bleaching-solution was applied to it. It would have been found to dissolve instantly in the acid, and this would have proved that it did not contain sensible traces of arsenium or of antimony.

L. S. LINDLEY.—In view of your failure to detect the chief constituents of the alloy, we recommend you to procure a small piece of pewter (which consists of tin and lead) and to practise upon it, so as to obtain familiarity with its behaviour towards acids, and with the reactions of solutions prepared from it.

A. J. D.—The hydrogen-sulphide precipitate ought to have contained some lead sulphide, since it is not possible to precipitate lead completely as chloride by means of hydrochloric acid. We fear the supposed reactions of bismuth were really due to lead.

ALOE.—We attribute the precipitate which you hesitated to regard as consisting of ammonium-magnesium phosphate, to the presence of traces of lead or of tin not entirely removed as sulphide. In our own practice we have not obtained satisfaction in using the oxalate separation of the metals of the arsenium group. If you wish to practise a good alternative separation of this group, study the method published by Walker in the February number for the current year of the *Journal of the Chemical Society* (page 184). You can see this journal at 36 York Place.

CYPTOPINE.—The alloy did not contain more than the faintest trace of manganese. We find the ammonium-persulphate test for manganese so delicate that it reveals the presence of traces of that metal in many reagents which we formerly regarded as free from it, since they gave no recognisable reaction with the sodium-carbonate bead-test for manganese.

DANWER.—Failing pure zinc for Marsh's test, you may usually employ aluminium, since this metal is most unlikely to contain arsenium or antimony. It is unfortunate that you did not accept the negative result obtained on trying Reinsch's test. See also the reply to "Alchemist."

F. H. W.—In absence of any indication of what were the unsatisfactory features in your examination of "Group IV," it is not in our power to offer any explanation of them.

W. M. D.—The hydrochloric-acid solution of the arsenium-group precipitate could not give the grey precipitate with mercuric chloride which is characteristic of the presence of a stannous salt, since it contained tin in the stannic condition only.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

James William Parrish, drysalter, of Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester, has been fined 10s. 6d. by the City Justices for storing 13 lbs. of crackers without being registered.

On December 21, at the Bristol Police Court, George Daubeney (45), chemist and druggist, of St. Mark's Road, Easton, Bristol, was fined 5s. for being drunk at his business-premises on the previous Saturday evening.

At an inquest held at Southampton on December 18, it was stated that deceased, a young married woman, had been preparing some furniture-polish by heating turpentine and beeswax, and accidentally spilt some on the stove. It immediately ignited and set her on fire. She sustained shocking injuries to her neck, arms, and face.

New science-laboratories (chemical and physical) were opened last week at the Ipswich School. The laboratories have been erected at a cost of 1,200*l.*, and are equipped with all the latest appliances on Liverpool and Manchester models.

The talk of the week has been Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff Commission. Amongst those who have accepted Mr. Chamberlain's invitation to serve is Sir Charles Tennant, Bart., M.P., the well-known octogenarian chemical-manufacturer of Glasgow.

The Chorlton Union Guardians (Manchester), at their Board-meeting on December 4, unanimously confirmed a recommendation to increase the salary of the dispenser (Mr. William A. Robinson) by 20*l.* per annum, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

A Nottingham chemist, with up-to-date trading proclivities, is offering to every customer who on December 23 and December 24 spends at least 9*d.*, "a nice Christmas cake fit for the Queen to eat." To every child who spends 2*d.* will be given "a delicious bun covered with sugar."

Contracts.

The Belper Board of Guardians on Saturday accepted the tender of Messrs. Calvert & Son for the supply of drugs to the workhouse.

The Maidstone Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Stonham & Sons, chemists, Maidstone, for drugs to the workhouse for a year at 23*l.* 6s. 5*d.*

The tender of Messrs. Metcalf & Son, Whitefriargate, for drugs to the Hull Board of Guardians, has been accepted. The Kempton Surgical Instrument Company are to supply surgical appliances to the Board.

The Isle of Thanet Board of Guardians have accepted the tenders of Mr. D. T. Evans, chemist and druggist, Margate, for disinfecting-fluid at 1*s.* 1*d.* per gal.; and that of Jeyes' Sanitary Company, for hard carbolio soap, at 16*s.* per cwt.

The Hull Sanitary Committee have accepted the tender of Mr. F. E. Lambert, chemist and druggist, 143 Anlaby Road, Hull, for drugs for twelve months. Mr. B. M. Stoakes, Whitefriargate, is to supply aerated waters to the hospitals for twelve months.

L.C.C. and Trade Compensation.

At the weekly meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, the Improvements Committee reported that they had settled the claim of Messrs. Griffin & Son with regard to 20, 22, 24, and 26 Sardinia Street on a reinstatement basis, as follows:

(i.) The Council to grant the claimants a lease for fifty years of a site equal in area to their present site at a rent of 600*l.* per annum; (ii.) the Council to grant the claimants a lease for fifty years of an additional site, having an area of about 3,024 square feet in the rear of the proposed new site at a rent of 150*l.* per annum; (iii.) the lease to start from the nearest quarter or half-quarter day after the site is handed over, the first eighteen months' rent to be a peppercorn; (iv.) the claimants to remain in possession of their present premises at the rent now paid—*i.e.*, 600*l.* per annum—for a period not exceeding eighteen months from the date when they receive possession of the new site; (v.) the plans, elevations, and specifications for the new buildings to be approved by the Council; (vi.) the Council to pay the claimants 16,000*l.* in respect of the new building, machinery, fixtures, and disturbance to trade; (vii.) the Council to pay a surveyor's fee of 210*l.*, including fee for preparation of inventory; and (viii.) the claimants to be allowed to remove certain machinery and fixtures of an estimated value of 300*l.*

The Bloomsbury Specialist.

At Lewisham, on December 17, the inquest was concluded on the body of Emma Spencer, of 59 Fernbrook Road, Lewisham, who had suffered from deafness for some time, and had been using an instrument and lotion known as an ear medicator and injector, supplied to her by a Mr. Moore, of Bloomsbury. Her death was very sudden, and Dr. Bolton stated that there were appearances of corrosive poisoning, and that death was apparently due to swallowing poison. The Superintendent of the Lewisham Infirmary said that

when he examined the body he found the stomach in a perfectly healthy state. Death, he considered, was due to a ruptured heart. The Coroner, in summing up, said that if it could have been conclusively proved that death had occurred in this case as a result of the use of the instrument and lotion supplied by Mr. Moore, he must warn him that very serious consequences might have ensued. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, and added a rider condemning the sale and use of medical instruments and drugs unless under the direction of a qualified medical man.

A Smart Purchaser.

A very ingenious fraud on chemists and other tradesmen has been brought to light in Bradford. A woman named Emily Ann Dillon (28) was convicted at the City Police Court on December 12 on eleven charges of stealing or attempting to steal 10s. by trick; and amongst the prosecuting tradesmen were Mr. F. A. Wilman, chemist, of 32 Westgate, and Messrs. Boots (Limited), Kirkgate. Her plan was to purchase a few small articles in a shop and tender a sovereign in payment, usually getting in change a half-sovereign and some silver. Immediately she picked up the money she made a quick substitution of a bright farthing for the half-sovereign, and put the money down with the observation, "This won't do; you have given me a farthing." Her appearance was so substantial and respectable that the trick almost invariably succeeded. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sent to prison for three months with hard labour, the Magistrates making an order that a sum of 5l. 10s., found in her possession, was to be divided amongst the victimised shopkeepers.

Midland Notes.

The shop-windows of the Birmingham pharmacists have put on their full Christmas dresses, and well they look. The leading features are perfumes in dainty boxes, soaps in abundance, and things generally beloved of woman.

A well-known local firm of retail pharmacists are distributing a neat white handbill printed in blue, enclosed in envelopes, "With — & —'s compliments." It has a tendency to receive more attention than the old style of forcing a crumpled bill into your hand when walking in the street.

The question as to whom recipes belong when contributed to a book supplied by the employer was touched upon the other day, when Messrs. Kynochs summoned Arthur Pope for burning a book of recipes as the result of a disagreement with the director of the research-laboratory (Mr. T. V. Hughes, F.I.C.). The Magistrates considered Mr. Pope's conduct dishonest and dishonourable, and fined him 5l. and costs, and 4l. damages.

Messrs. Boots (Limited) have circularised the brethren in pharmacy with regard to their new acquisition in High Street, Birmingham. They are retaining the whole of the old staff, including Mr. Breton, who has been "there" for forty years. They are evidently bent upon getting back the reputation for the place which it acquired some fifty or sixty years ago in the days of Morris Banks, "who had a successful remedy for every ailment under the sun."

A Coventry trader has been summoned under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for selling "chewing-gum" adulterated with 23 per cent. of paraffin-wax. The prosecution stated that, although not eaten, it was undesirable for chewing, as it was absolutely insoluble in the digestive organs, and was not decomposed by the strongest oil of vitriol. It was shown that the law was against the prosecution, and that the summons had only been applied for to give publicity to the dangerous nature of "chewing-wax."

Sheffield Notes.

The annual ball of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society has been fixed for February 4, 1904, at the Royal Victoria Hotel.

Mr. William Ward, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, is now lying seriously ill at his residence, 8 Kenwood Park Road. Mr. Ward was Hon. Secretary to the local Society for twenty-one years, and is very well known in pharmaceutical circles.

Mr. Edwin Wells Smith, chemist and druggist, has now transferred his business from 7 Nether Edge Road to the fine new shop which he has erected on a plot of land immediately adjoining, to which he has also transferred his aerated-water plant.

The first step has already been taken in preparation for the visit of the British Pharmaceutical Conference to Sheffield next year. A sub-committee, consisting of Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (President of the local Society), Mr. A. Russell Fox, F.L.S. (Vice-President), Mr. George Squire (Treasurer), and Mr. H. Antcliffe (Hon. Secretary) has been appointed to report on the necessary arrangements.

The Hon. Secretary of the local Society has just issued a prospectus of the Newsholme herbarium prize for the current year, this being a prize, together with a certificate, given by Mr. Newsholme for the best collection of flowering-plants and ferns collected within twenty miles of Sheffield between October 1 in one year and September 25 in the following year. The conditions provide that the plants forming the collection must be arranged according to the natural system—Hooker, Babington, or Benthams being accepted as standards. The competition is open to all associates of the Sheffield Society who have attended the Sheffield School of Pharmacy.

From the Three Towns.

The local Association were represented at the Mayor's banquet on Tuesday by the President, Mr. J. Barge.

Owing to the want of interest shown by some members of the Three Towns Chemists' Association in the Pharmacy Ball, which has for the past seven years been both a financial and social success, it has been decided not to hold the ball this year.

Alleged Embezzlement.

At the North London Police Court, on December 21, Mr. Dickinson was again occupied for some hours in hearing charges of alleged embezzlement against Robert Sothorn (33), described as a chemist, who had been traveller for Marion James & Ker (Limited), manufacturing chemists, of Durham Grove, Hackney. It was alleged that he had received cheques from customers, cashed them, and appropriated the proceeds to his own use. Mr. Aldous, who prosecuted, called several chemists to prove that the prisoner collected their accounts, and produced his receipts; but Mr. John Ker, the managing director, declared that these sums had not been handed over to the firm by the prisoner. Counsel for the defence severely cross-examined this witness, with a view to showing that he had been tardy in his payments of what was due from the firm to the prisoner; in fact, that the 5s. per week and commission had only been paid at intervals. The prisoner declared that what he had done had been practically acquiesced in by the prosecutors until he left their employ. He was now in good employment, earning 3l. or 4l. per week. Several books and documents necessary to the case were not now forthcoming, and the Magistrate further remanded the prisoner on his own bail, but warned him to be prepared with bail on the next hearing in the event of the case being sent to a jury.

Poisonings.

Three deaths from poisons have been reported since our last record, one of which was a misadventure. William Cooper, a Liverpool shoemaker, suffered from rheumatic pains and had taken laudanum for some time for relief. On December 12 he was found unconscious, and was removed to the Royal Infirmary, where he died from opium poisoning. The Coroner's jury found that he had taken an overdose of laudanum by mistake. Beatrice Wynne Evans, a young married woman, was found dead at Newport Bridge on December 17, poisoned by salt of lemon. Mrs. Evans suffered from chronic melancholia, and had repeatedly threatened suicide. John Hutchinson, caretaker of St. Jude's Hall, Newcastle, poisoned himself with carbolic acid while in a despondent frame of mind. At an inquest held before Mr. E. A. Gibson, city coroner of Manchester, on December 21, it appeared that Henry Tyror, 48, a labourer, went home on December 18 apparently drunk and immediately went to sleep. Next morning he was found dead in exactly the same position as when he lay down. A

bottle which had contained laudanum was then found in his coat pocket. This led to inquiries. James Dumbleby, in the employment of Messrs. Boots, at their Rochdale Road shop, said deceased came to their shop on December 18 and asked for an ounce of laudanum. Witness refused to give it him, but after a conversation extending over a quarter of an hour, in the course of which deceased said he had suffered from rheumatism for years and only wanted the laudanum for rubbing purposes, he supplied him with 4 dr. The deceased's wife said her husband had used rubbing medicine before, but she had never seen a bottle like the one from Boots', labeled "Poison." Dr. Maerclage, who made the *post-mortem* examination, said laudanum was so quickly absorbed by the system, that no trace of it in this instance could be found. The internal organs showed that the man had been a heavy drinker and would not have lived much longer under any circumstances. He attributed his death to alcoholic excess and asthma, which had produced heart failure. The jury found a verdict in accordance with the doctor's views.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Dr. McWalter, who was to be one of the candidates in the forthcoming election in the South Dock Ward, Dublin, has withdrawn from the contest.

Contracts.

At the meeting of the Enniscorthy Asylum Governors last week, the tender of Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), Dublin, was accepted for the supply of medicines at 20½ per cent. discount, and for medical appliances, &c., at 25 per cent. discount.

The Board are Obdurate.

The Local Government Board still adhere to their former decision (*C. & D.*, November 23, page 877), declining to sanction the increase of 20% per annum, which the Limerick Board of Guardians decided to give to Mr. McMahon, compounder of medicines at the local workshop.

Where are the Empties?

At the last meeting of the Mountmellick Guardians, Dr. Tabuteau, Portarlington, wrote advising the Guardians not to pay the amount claimed by the medicine-contractors for the empties which they alleged were not returned (*C. & D.*, December 19, page 995). The doctor added that he had always been particular in seeing that all empties were sent back. The Clerk reported that Dr. O'Brien, medical officer of the Mountmellick Dispensary, had offered to return the empties there if the drug-contractors paid him 10s. they owed him.

The Sheep-dip Agitation.

At the last meeting of the committee of the Irish Cattle-traders' Association held in Dublin, Mr. W. Field, M.P., presiding, correspondence was read from the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in reference to the recent Ballinasloe prosecutions and the sale of sheep-dip generally. Letters on the same subject were read from Mr. Thomas H. Hibbets, of Kilconnell, informing the committee that the County Councils of Galway, Clare, and Roscommon were now considering the whole question. After a discussion the Secretary was requested to forward a copy of this correspondence to the Pharmaceutical Society and the Agricultural Department.

In the correspondence read at the meeting of the committee of the Irish Cattle-traders' Association last Thursday, from Mr. T. B. Hibbets, on behalf of the County Councils of Clare, Galway, and Roscommon, it was stated that at present only three men are authorised to sell sheep-dip in the large tract of country lying between Athlone and Limerick—one at Ballinasloe, one at Loughrea, and the third at Ennis. It was further stated that across the whole county of Galway there were only two who were permitted to sell sheep-dip

under the new arrangement—one at Killimore, and the second at Tuam; and in the West of Galway, comprising the district of Connemara, it was stated, there was no one qualified to sell it.

Chemists' Interests in Danger.

The following is the text of a circular which has been addressed from Dublin:

In a recent test-case, the Irish Court of King's Bench decided that unqualified persons may carry on the profession of dentist provided they register themselves as a joint-stock company, although they dare not practise in their individual capacity.

This decision is on all fours with a previous ruling of the Courts as regards pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists, and there are now in Ireland several limited companies carrying on the business. As it is now quite certain that they are acting within the law, as it at present stands, there is every likelihood, if not grave danger, of their number rapidly increasing, for any country trader or shopkeeper may now add the business of a chemist to his other branches by simply registering his concern as a joint-stock company. In England, many drapers and purveyors even have pharmaceutical branches and are ruining the business of individual chemists.

Several attempts have been made in Great Britain to grapple with the question, but have all failed, so numerous and powerful have the companies become.

In Ireland, however, the case is different. The number of companies is still comparatively small, and some of them have interests very much in common with those of individual chemists. It is quite possible that, if these companies were approached in a fair and business-like way by the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, terms might be made by which their opposition to a measure for preventing the further increase of limited companies, carrying on the business of chemists might be removed.

It is therefore suggested that the Society should at once take the matter into consideration, and, if thought feasible, promote a Bill in the coming Session of Parliament for the purpose of protecting the chemist's interests, which are so seriously threatened.

One of the first steps should be to approach the principal Irish companies engaged in the trade, and ascertain on what, if any, conditions their co-operation could be secured, for without it nothing can be done. In all probability the dentists and doctors of Ireland, whose interests are similarly affected by the decision referred to already, would be only too glad to join in such a movement.

Every previous attempt at legislation has failed, principally owing to the opposition of the companies, but if they could be got to co-operate, and with the help of the dentists and doctors of Ireland, it is hard to conceive how Parliament could refuse to sanction any reasonable measure put forward by the Irish Pharmaceutical Society.

Of all things let the Irish Society work independently of that of Great Britain. The circumstances of the two countries are quite different, and union of forces is much more likely to be obtained within our own shores than by hinging ourselves on the back of an English measure, if only a little give-and-take is allowed all round.

Perhaps a conference of all the parties interested, on the lines of the Land Conference, would be most likely to produce a good result, but no time should be lost, as Parliament assembles on February 2.

December, 1903.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

University Extension.

A reception by Professor Crum Brown and the members of the staff of the Chemistry Department at Edinburgh University will be held on January 4, 1904, when the department (including the newly completed annexe) will be open for extension.

A Well-known Chemical-manufacturer.

The death took place at Rosemill, near Dundee, on December 18, of Mr. James S. Rogers, senior partner in the firm of J. S. Rogers & Sons (Limited), Rosemill Chemical-works, Strathmartine. Mr. Rogers, who was eighty years of age, had been a prominent figure in the business life of Dundee for many years. He was a member of the Forfar

County Council and of the old Parochial Board and School Board of Mains. Mr. Rogers is survived by three daughters and three sons, two of whom are directors of the company of which he was the head, and the third is Dr. J. S. Y. Rogers, of Dundee.

Glasgow Notes.

Cheap & Good (Limited) have opened another branch in Argyle Street, Glasgow.

Several local chemists are displaying subscription-sheets for the "Cry of the Consumptive" fund, with good results.

Chemist as Lecturer.

A course of free lectures on chemistry and botany is to be given in the Reading Room, Lower Largo, by Mr. P. Fenton, chemist and druggist. Experiments will be performed as far as facilities permit.

Chemists and Sheep-dip.

The *Scottish Farmer* looks at the recent Hamilton case with somewhat atrophied vision. It says:

The chemists seem determined to get the sheep-dip trade into their own hands. They got beaten at Hamilton, which is so far well. Efforts should be made to keep the chemists in their place, or the cost of sheep-dips, &c., will rise to some purpose.

So long as sheep-dip comes within the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts it is out of place elsewhere than in chemists' shops, and the *Scottish Farmer* would need a lesson or two in law before it says more on the subject.

Business Changes.

Mr. Wm. W. Hunter, chemist, at present manager of the late Mr. R. Burnett's business in Fraserburgh, is shortly opening a pharmacy at 46 Mid Street in the same town.

The partnership between Mr. T. E. D. Low and Mr. Thos. F. Johnstone, trading as Low & Johnstone, chemists, at Church Place, Dumfries, has been dissolved and the business will in future be carried on by Mr. Johnstone under the old title.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE PHARMACIST AND THE PRETENDER.—M. Charles Bernard, ex-deputy and present pharmacist, denies that he signed the Royalist manifesto of the Duc de Bourbon. Pressed by the Judge last week, he declared the letter produced was a simple forgery.

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—At the monthly meeting of this Society for December, Professor Béhal was elected Vice-President for the coming year (1904), and M. Lépinos was nominated as the annual Secretary for the same period. The Vice-President for the present year (1903) becomes, as usual, President for next year.

TEACHING THE YOUNG IDEA HOW TO SHOOT.—The medical students of Paris have followed the example of their pharmaceutical brethren, and have now an association of their own. At their anniversary festival recently held, one noticed the walls in some of the rooms covered by immense glass cases full of bottles. "One of our sources of revenue," explained a student member. "We thus show patent medicines, and, taking one year with another, we pocket an average of 10,000f. (400l.)."

"A NEW WAY TO COLLECT OLD DEBTS" is being discussed with some indignation in the best clubs of Paris just now. A duke entered a shop with a friend, not a hundred miles from the Grands Boulevards, to pay 500f. on account. The tradesman turned the key in the lock of the front door, and said, "What you owe is not 500f., but 2,500f. You have no money, but your friend here is rich: he will lend you the balance, and you will pay me in full, or you will both stay here." Naturally indignant, the duke and his friend protested; and words were leading to blows when the police

appeared, and the trio were escorted to the police-station. The Commissary, however, held that it was not a police-court case, and referred them to the Civil Courts.

MOTOR-PHARMACY.—A motor-car exhibition is not exactly the place one would expect to find pharmacy, except in the form of bandages and dressings, but a good many odds and ends of perfumery and other specialities have found their way into the galleries of the Salon de l'Automobile, the fine motor-car exhibition now being held in Paris. One of the biggest motor-car manufacturers, I learnt, stocks a "motorist pharmacy"—a little leather case which, when opened, shows in one half sixteen internal medicaments in tablet or lozenge form, with an indication of usage, doses, &c., and on the other side cotton wool, dermatol, arnica, sticking-plaster, and even a few surgical instruments. The outfit is listed at 60f. (25 percent. discount to wholesalers), and is manufactured at Lyons.

A DRAMATIC LADY DRUGGIST.—In Sardon's new play, "La Sorcière," now being performed in Paris, Madame Sarah Bernhardt appears in the character of Zoraya, a beautiful Hispano-Moorish maiden, whose father was one of those Oriental sages who introduced pharmacy (as a distinct art) to the Peninsula, and thence to the whole of modern Europe. Like the Rebecca of "Ivanhoe," she is proscribed for her religion and adored for her skill in healing; a mistress of simples, the providence of the sick poor. Like the heroine of our boyhood's romance, she is finally condemned to the stake by bigotry. But, in place of the noble knight, her refuge from her fate consists simply of one of her cherished phials—the "cup of cold poison" dear to dramatists since the days of Shakespeare. A grim opponent of female pharmacy may point the moral and adorn the tale. Zoraya lived a few centuries too soon.

THE MORPHIA-HABIT.—As a result of the considerable increase in the number of persons at present under treatment in the Paris hospitals suffering from the effects of habitual overdoses of morphia, legal action has been taken against quite a number of pharmacists for supplying morphia without the requisite doctor's prescription. On Friday, December 18, six pharmacists appeared at the Paris Tenth Chamber in response to a summons for infringing the Pharmacy Law in this respect. The prosecution was the result of a complaint made by an engraver, who pretends that, acting on the advice of a pharmacist, he had taken morphia and cocaine in considerable quantities as a means of seeking relief for a liver-complaint. The result was that he became addicted to the morphia-habit, and was finally under treatment at the Hôtel Dieu hospital for a month from that cause. He is now pronounced as cured, and has lost no time in claiming 30,000f. (1,200l.) damages from the pharmacists who supplied him with the drug without proper medical authority. He is not likely to get all he claims, but the pharmacists will, in any case, have to suffer a good deal of loss of time and perhaps annoyance.

PERFUME AND THE PARIS OCTROI.—People who have had experience in bringing goods through the Paris Octroi (city Excise), know that the slightest error in declaration means generally a great deal of inconvenience and sometimes a more or less heavy fine. M. Jean Bardin, a Brussels perfumer, had some experience of this a few days ago. He had occasion to bring into Paris by the Asnières Gate thirty baskets containing bottles of perfumery, and, in order to save time, he had drawn up beforehand a statement of his goods, as well as an estimate of the quantity of alcohol to be declared. In testing a few of the bottles the Octroi men found a slight error in declaration regarding one of them, and, as a result, verified one by one several thousand bottles. This took five long hours to accomplish, and M. Bardin, with his horse and cart and the carter, had no alternative but to stand by and watch the control or to go back from whence they came. It was an icy cold and windy day, and the Octroi men carried on the verification by relays, while the others warmed themselves by the stove in their guard-room. The result of it all was that M. Bardin was fined a nominal sum of 1f. 70c. (say, 1s. 4½d.), in addition to the ordinary town dues. It may be added that M. Bardin has opened a small but rather attractive shop for the sale of retail perfumery at 35 Boulevard des Capucines, Paris, and he has also started a manufactory at Asnières, which is quite near the city.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz. :—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
NORTHERN DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT writes that last month patent-medicine duty was paid on cod-liver oil, castor oil, and effervescing saline which were not labelled in the possessive case.

DRUG AND MEDICINE TENDERS.—The Government have asked for local tenders for the supply of medicines and drugs to the Johannesburg, Boksburg, Krugersdorp, Germiston, and Florida prisons, commencing January 1, 1904.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS.—According to a report by the Belgian Consul-General at Durban, a considerable demand is developing in South Africa for photographic apparatus and sundries. Platinotype paper is in good demand owing, it is said, to the extreme dryness of the veldt, which renders carbon too friable. Owing to the strong sunlight, "Gaslight" papers are not successful.

AWAITING CLAIMANTS.—The P.M.O. (Principal Medical Officer) at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, has in his possession South African war medals for the following gentlemen, who were dispensers in the R.A.M.C.: Messrs. J. W. P. Cannell, V. R. Raywood, C. J. Skinner, G. E. Waters, and F. Howell. Mr. Cannell is engaged with Lennons (Limited), in Johannesburg, but the others cannot be traced. Will either of the gentlemen named or their relatives communicate with us or direct with the P.M.O.?

TRANSVAAL ITEMS.—Wednesday, December 9, was a public holiday in Johannesburg. It was the polling-day for the first municipal elections since the termination of the war. Up till then the affairs of the town had been in the hands of a nominated council. A fair amount of interest was displayed in the contest. Amongst the candidates for municipal honours was Mr. Walker Pole, chemist, Braamfontein.—After many days the Labour Commission has issued its report. There is a majority report and a minority report, the former declaring that there is insufficient native labour in Central and South Africa to meet the demand; while the latter (by two of the commissioners) contends that there is, if proper methods be adopted to procure it.—The Globe Pharmacy, at the corner of Harrison and De Villiers Streets, Johannesburg, has been acquired from Messrs. Brande & Righthouse by Mr. H. A. Jourdain.—A new pharmacy is shortly to be opened at Cleaveland, a township situated on the reef between Johannesburg and Germiston.—Business still remains very quiet and money is consequently tight.—On November 9 a railway accident occurred at Ashbury Station, about three miles from Pretoria in the direction of Johannesburg. Amongst the passengers were Mr. D. H. Davies, African representative of Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), and his wife. Mrs. Davies was thrown with considerable force against the opposite side of the compartment and is still being medically attended. Mr. Davies was uninjured.—Fifty-three new drug-stores have been opened in the Transvaal during the past twelve months.—Recently the Chief of Police sent detectives round all the doctors, dentists, and chemists in Johannesburg to examine their diplomas and trading licences.—Messrs. Brande & Righthouse, chemists, Johannesburg, are suing the Central South African Railways for 108*l.* damage to one package of opium. The case was heard before the second Civil Magistrate on November 17, when the plaintiffs applied for an adjournment to allow them to take the evidence, on commission, of their forwarding agents at Durban. This was granted.—The Chinese labour question and the Gold Law are likely to engross the Legislature to the exclusion of the new combined Medical, Dental, and Pharmacy Bill. Transvaal pharmacists

had hopes that the Bill would have passed the Legislature this month, but there appears little hope for it just at present.

TRANSVAAL DRUG AND CHEMICAL IMPORTS.—The *Transvaal Government Gazette* of November 20 contains a statement of the quantity and value of goods imported into the Transvaal during the nine months ending September 30, 1903, compared with the corresponding period of 1902. Among the articles are the following:

	1902		1903	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Acetic acid and vinegar (gals.)	14,596	£ 2,798	22,784	£ 4,475
Apothecaries' wares, chemical and toilet articles ...	—	103,446	—	218,114
Potass. cyanide ... lbs.	3,568,560	171,452	4,260,355	184,269
Quicksilver ...	—	6,149	—	4,770
Sulphuric acid ...	—	708	—	788
Acids (other kinds) ...	—	1,580	—	1,657
Candles ... lbs.	4,126,844	69,261	7,062,644	114,812
Confectionery and sweets	986,691	42,899	1,630,463	58,211
Glass bottles ...	—	11,568	—	28,010
Honey ... lbs.	28,104	970	42,554	1,244
Mineral waters ... doz.	11,596	2,403	71,424	12,162
Oils—				
Castor ... gals.	6,471	1,896	11,724	3,616
Cocoonut ...	4,235	867	5,117	1,219
Lard ...	4,561	793	18,834	2,399
Lamp (mineral) ...	737,366	29,496	1,466,752	53,263
Lamp (other kinds) ...	3,096	219	12,159	1,119
Linseed ...	52,221	7,561	137,330	14,946
Machine ...	333,483	21,720	429,323	22,431
Sweet ...	16,000	5,431	27,096	6,912
Other kinds ...	15,569	1,941	65,763	7,431
Photographic materials ...	—	16,669	—	26,002
Sheep dip ...	—	716	—	2,218
Soap (household) ... lbs.	3,288,334	39,604	6,682,945	68,151
Soap (perfumed and toilet) ...	148,348	13,455	206,243	14,995
Sparklets and bottles ...	—	8,555	—	7,031
Spirits—				
Liqueurs and bitters gals.	—	—	14,947	13,212
Perfumed and scented ...	5,270	13,758	6,787	17,569
Oversea ...	321,833	188,757	568,536	309,671
South African ...	14,352	5,716	16,810	5,391
Turpentine ...	17,166	2,579	47,968	6,630
Varnish ...	6,647	2,427	55,374	10,118

AN AMERICAN DRUGGIST'S VIEWS.—Mr. Otto I. Wessel, Brooklyn, has been telling his experiences in South Africa to the *Pharmaceutical Era*. Mr. Wessel was struck with the South African fever two years ago. He got a situation with Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., of Cape Town, and was in charge of their branch at Mossel Bay when that place was captured by the Boers. Mr. Wessel speaks enthusiastically of the Boers as customers. Occasionally, at Mossel Bay, a day would come when not a single thing would be sold, but perhaps the very next day they would sell 75*l.* worth of goods at 150 per cent. profit. "The Boers buy medicine by the gallon. Ten boxes of Williams's Pink Pills at one time!" The poison-book was filled with such entries as "One ounce strychnine, to kill hyenas," and a large amount of strychnine solution was sold for snake-bite injections. The reason why Mr. Wessel left South Africa was because, he says, they would not let him register. England is jealous of her professional privileges, and the professional foreigner is kept out of South Africa as much as possible. He detailed his attempt to register. First he went to Mr. A. Mathew, President of the Pharmacy Board, who sent him to the Secretary. The Secretary was not at home, and the time-limit for registration had expired before he found the Secretary, only to be told that "he was succeeded by another man nine months ago." Mr. Wessel had to swear to his papers of identification (his passport not being accepted as evidence), and he was afterwards told that he would have to show certificates of his education. That meant months of waiting while they came from the United States. So Mr. Wessel gave up and went back to America. Mr. Wessel proceeds to give his opinion on the examination which he did not pass.

It lasts two days. There are eight questions to be answered orally and eight in writing. In botany the examination is higher than in New York, but in everything else it is farcical. The assistants met with there are, he asserts, "a set of incompetents." They are all English. They never saw a tincture made, and some pills that he (the *raconteur*) made were shown around as curiosities! In one pharmacy, after a consultation among five assistants, a prescription asking for "Ext. helæ liq.," in a 60-minim dose, was dispensed—Ext. helladonnæ liq.!! And a cocaine snuff for which the prescriber wrote—

Cocain. mur.	...	...	...	0.5
Sacchar. lactis	...	...	...	5.

was dispensed containing 5 grams of cocaine instead of the $\frac{1}{2}$ gram ordered. These statements put forward as generalisations are ridiculous enough, but the fact that the South African examiners failed to take Mr. Wessel's superhuman capacity on trust may have something to do with the exaggeration.

MORE COMMERCIAL NOTES.

(By a Johannesburg Correspondent.)

Probably you will have noticed that the commercial notes which I sent to you a few weeks ago coincide in the chief with the report (November 21) of Mr. Birchenough, the Board of Trade's Commissioner. In the summary of his conclusions I would recommend the ten articles to the careful perusal of all wholesale druggists of Scotland and England, also his suggestions 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 11. May I request the Commissioner regarding the magnitude of the South African market and the rapidity of the growth of British imports, when he says "It is not rash to predict that this year South Africa will pass India and stand first on the list as the largest buyer in the world of the produce and manufactures of the Mother Country"?

The fiscal question with us is now a thing of the past; the talking stage is over. For months we have only been paying 7½ 10s. per 100l. on British goods and 10l. on foreign. Whenever you give us a little encouragement from your side we hope to make it 15l. on foreign.

In a small Customs declaration before me it is surprising to see how many articles are made on the Continent and America and shipped through a London house. The following are a few: Enamelled bed-pans, sesame oil, photo goods, throat-brushes, glycerin syringes, manicure goods, thermometers, white-slide boxes, soda-fountain apparatus, plasters, indiarubber goods, and fluid extracts. Surely there is something far wrong with British commercial methods when it suits us better to pay the increased duty on these foreign goods rather than buy them in Britain.

Many chemists are still troubled about the vagaries of Customs clerks in different parts. In Standerton pulv. glycyrrh co. is a drug paying 7½ per cent. duty. In Pretoria it is a proprietary article paying 25 per cent. duty. Ol. eucalypti is a drug in Germiston and an essential oil at 25 per cent. in Johannesburg. Dutch droppels are drugs in Heidelberg and patent medicines in Krugersdorp. It seems there is no authority to whom chemists can apply for definite information on this subject; but a chemist will shortly bring it before the Chamber of Trade. When the druggists get a strong man, like the local baker, to represent them in this Chamber and in the Municipal Council, then they will be heard.

In connection with the new Customs tariff export-invoices have to be provided with a declaration (usually printed on the back), which are drawn up in something like the following form:

I [name of person signing certificate] hereby certify that I am [partner, manager, chief clerk, &c.] of [name and address of exporter] the exporter(s) of the articles included in the invoice, and that I am duly authorised to make and sign this certificate on behalf of the said exporter(s) [name of exporter].

I have the means of knowing, and I do hereby certify that this invoice from the said [name of exporter] to [name of party to whom goods are invoiced] amounting to [insert in words at length the value of the invoice] is true and correct; that all the articles included in the said invoice are *bona fide* the produce or manufacture of one or more of the following countries—viz.: [Names of countries where articles have been produced or manufactured, being countries entitled in South Africa to the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff], and that a substantial portion of the labour of one or more of such countries has entered into the production of every manufactured article included in the said invoice to the extent in each article of not less than one-fourth of the value of every such article in its present condition ready for export to South Africa.

Signed

Dated

Colonial and Foreign News.

CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACIES.—The syndicate for protecting the interests of Swiss pharmacy reports that there are five co-operative pharmacies in Geneva, and one each in Schaffhausen, Neuhausen, and Chaux de Fonds. Swiss pharmacists object very strongly to this style of trading.

GERMAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—The general meeting was held in Berlin on December 12. The annual report stated that the popularity and the membership-roll of the Association have increased and the funds of the association are in a very healthy condition. A proposal that the library of the Association should be removed to a special room in the Pharmaceutical Institute at Dahlem was carried. The Association is offering a prize of 500l., for comparative analyses on the fluctuations in the tannic-acid content of extracts.

THE CHINESE NATIONAL DRINK is named chanshin. It is obtained principally from a herb called gaolyan, which is grown almost on every peasant's land in Manchuria. The seed is used partly for cattle-food, but chiefly to make chanshin. The Chinese cultivate it, as they do other cereals, with great care, and the seed is accurately placed in the ground, and is not sown broadcast. Chanshin is produced both in factories and privately in a primitive manner. There is a great demand for it, but this does not mean that the Chinese are drunkards. They take their drink moderately. The law is very severe on intoxication. Chanshin is not uniform in spirit-contents, but may be taken to be about 150 per cent. stronger than Russian vodka, and being prepared in very old-fashioned apparatus poisonous impurities are often present in appreciable quantities. It is a rapid intoxicant, and it has the peculiarity that a double intoxication may ensue from one dose. Thus you drink your chanshin to-day and get intoxicated. To-morrow, with returned sobriety, you have an exceeding thirst, to satisfy which you have only to take a tumbler of water and you are—drunk again.

SPANISH OLIVE OIL.—The export of olive oil from Tarra-gona has increased enormously during the last three years. Inquiries upon this subject by the British Consul at that port led him to the conclusion that the olive-production of the Ebro Valley was in a neglected condition until quite recently. The trees were uncared for, the methods of extracting the oil antiquated, and the result was a coarse product which for the most part served only for manufactures. But the French discovered that good, and even superior, olive oils were obtainable in Lower Aragon and the Ebro Valley, and a demand speedily appeared, which has led to the introduction of modern appliances and an unlooked-for development in the industry. Hundreds of presses have been installed in the villages within a short time, and numerous are the proprietors and wine-growers who have converted themselves into exporters of oil. Given a crop free from blight the production would seem to be unlimited, with a ready market close at hand. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that at the moment the business has been overdone, and thousands of casks are lying unsold in Marseilles, on which the producer has received perhaps 75 per cent. of the value from bankers. Prices have fallen away quite 20 per cent., and speculators are lamenting a ruinous season.

Estimation of Cinnamic Aldehyde.—Hanus (*Pharm. Zeitung*, 823, 1903) gives the following method for determining the amount of cinnamic aldehyde in cassia oil. From 0.15 to 0.2 gram of the oil is well shaken with 85 c.c. of water to break it up into minute globules. From 0.25 to 0.35 gram of semioxamizide, dissolved in 15 c.c. of hot water, is added, and the whole well shaken for a time at intervals, and then allowed to stand for twenty-four hours. The crystals separating are collected, washed with cold water, dried for four or five hours at 105° C., and weighed. The weight of the crystals, multiplied by 0.6083, gives the amount of cinnamic aldehyde. The cinnamic aldehyde semioxamazone formed melts at 274° C., and has the constitution—



Our Town Traveller.

"It is like a bit out of Dickens," said my fair companion to me; and it was this exactly. South of Southwark Street is a region of London which is underground in appearance yet not so in reality. A railway line 'twixt Cannon Street and Charing Cross allows the passengers to stare into the top-storey windows of factories as they pass by. Few ever give a thought of what is underneath, yet it was there that I went to find

THE SWEETEST THING ON EARTH,

meaning thereby saccharin, I hasten to explain, else the remark which begins this record of my last journey for the year might be misinterpreted. How few know that saccharin is made in England! I believe the fact was mentioned in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST some time ago, that the Saccharin Corporation contemplated the manufacture of saccharin in this country. This is a case, I fancy, in which contemplation may be carried to æsthetic lengths, for saccharin in its penultimate and ultimate stages is worth 1s. 3d. per oz. to the revenue authorities, and it is easier for the Excise to allow the Customs to collect the 1s. 3d. at the port of entry than to watch toluene and other things mount from free territory to the dutiable platform. How the Saccharin Corporation managed I do not pretend to say, but the fact is that they are making saccharin by the ton in London. In these fiscalitis times this means, first, that we have imported a hitherto German industry, but that I think is of secondary importance to the fact that saccharin is the first dutiable chemical (apart from ethyl alcohol) to be made in this country under Excise supervision. It furnished our revenue authorities with entirely new problems for solution. When a certain stage of the manufacturing process is reached the nation as a whole is interested in it to the extent of 1s. 3d. an ounce, which is, I fancy, as big a share as the Corporation's, and the principle of the British revenue is not to trust anybody except the Sovereign of the Realm. This may sound oracular, but it is not so really. It means that the Saccharin Corporation before it could commence manufacturing had to provide a factory one half of which would be in bond. As those busy men Messrs. Helbing and Passmore are the technical advisers of the company, the factory had to be close to the City, hence some railway premises in Southwark have been happily turned into a factory. Alighting from a cab before an iron gate, we entered it to find ourselves in a long and silent tunnel, with an arch of blue-grey atmosphere in the distance. It was almost ghost-like (hence my fair companion's remark), but within a hundred yards we tapped on a door, and Dr. F. W. Passmore opened it to admit us into an ammoniacal atmosphere. This was the free territory of the factory. We walked along past blocks of ice, of which a ton is used a day, to a spacious yard, and Dr. Passmore's assurance that he would show me "everything" had first proof when he opened the door of the toluene fireproof store. He explained the ingenious arrangement by which this nucleus of saccharin is automatically conveyed by pipes into the free laboratory; and we followed the pipes past an Ali Baba row of acid condensers and an acid tower free from fumes to the toluene-still where that coal-tar product meets the acid which carries the molecule a bit nearer to saccharin. And so stage by stage, each automatic, each unobtrusive in the smoothness of its working, until the Excise gate divides us from the bonded territory. The amide filter was bolted and barred as effectually as a tabloid trade-mark, and, inquiring, I was told that the amide is worth 1s. 3d. an ounce to the revenue. I feared to enter into bond lest it should be hurtful to a free lance, but the fact that I am writing about it is evidence that it was not very dreadful. A Customs I.R. supervisor took me, metaphorically, by the buttonhole and showed me how the amide is oxidised, how the spirit is recovered, how, if one is not careful, the residual alpha-beta-gamma something which is automatically blown out of the covered still may sprinkle over one's clothing, and how the saccharin is taken from the centrifugal separator to the drying closet, and thence to the bonded warehouse. I rather admired the way in which the supervisor shovelled the saccharin, and suggested that I could get a sample at Queen Victoria Street. He looked so innocent through his spectacles! Yet as soon as my back was turned on the drying-closet, he put a padlock on the door—a solid

brass padlock, formidable in strength and ingeniously constructed to show the effects of any skeleton key that might not open it—a revenue padlock. After this, Dr. Passmore showed me with something savouring of pride the ammoniacal-recovering apparatus in the yard. It was beautifully simple and automatic; residuals go in at one end and ammonia comes out at the other. The result of my visit was that I had seen every stage of the manufacture of saccharin, and when I walked back into the "bit out of Dickens" I felt worth no more to a potential saccharin-maker than when I entered. There is no great harm in that. I would rather be a humble town traveller to record that a new branch of chemical industry has been started in London than a doctor of philosophy in fisherman's boots and a chauffeur's clothing.

[O. T. T. was the man for this delicate inspection. It was necessary that it should be done by someone who would see yet not observe too much. The Saccharin Corporation has done excellent service to British chemical industry by pioneering the way which the revenue authorities had not explored, and the work that the Corporation are doing will be of great value to the industry.—EDITOR.]

That quaint and dainty Odol flask has so haunted my mind of late in my walks about town that I felt constrained to look up the proprietors at 26 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., and ascertain what progress it had made in this country. The result was that I had

A PLEASANT LITTLE CHAT

with the London joint-managers, Messrs. W. C. Rossberg and C. H. Sigle, who assured me that the Odol dentifrice proved a success from the date of its introduction into this country—eighteen months ago—and that it has certainly come to stay. "Odol," said Mr. Sigle, "has been a household word on the Continent for many years, and we intend to make it so here. When I tell you that I have visited practically every European town of over 50,000 inhabitants, and have established branches in many of them, you will be able to see that we intend to leave no stone unturned to bring the merits of Odol before the public. And as to the British Colonies," continued Mr. Sigle, "we have made rapid progress, especially in British India, South Africa, and Australasia. It is quite probable that at some future period we shall have our own factories in some of the Colonies, as, no doubt you are aware, the Customs duties are in some instances extremely high."

Turning to more local matters I ventured to inquire how the Window-display Competition went off, and was informed that the idea was taken up by the trade on such an extensive scale that it was impossible to meet the demand for advertising-material, dummies, &c., and it was found to be impracticable to close the competition and make the awards at the time originally intended without debarring many from participating in it. The awards will now be made at an early date, of which due notice will be given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. As there has been some confusion with regard to the question of the flavours in which Odol is supplied, I was asked to note that the Sweet Rose (mild) is the ladies' favourite and the Standard (strong) is generally preferred by the sterner sex—especially smokers. These flavours are indicated at the foot of the labels on the flasks—the "Standard" on a yellow strip and the "Sweet Rose" on the red strip. The merits of Odol are highly regarded in the dental profession, and when arrangements have been perfected the company are to place an Odol tooth-powder on the market.

The quiet showroom of

MR. W. TOOGOOD,

in Heddon Street, Regent Street, W., is invariably sparkling with cut-glass, of which I noted many pretty specimens some time ago. The cut bottles for perfumes and toilet-waters are as diverse in shape as one can wish, and it is quite invidious to select one or two kinds to flatter an idiosyncrasy. The plain sugar-loaf pattern in perfume-bottles is, to my mind, exceedingly pretty, but other critics with a more evenly regulated mind may prefer the stately direct square to the severe globe stopper, or the fantastic imagination may yearn for the hobnail cutting on a tomato-shaped ground. Perfumes in good cut-glass bottles have been more affected than cased perfumes by Mr. Toogood this year, and there are

lots of nice bottles of all shapes, sizes, and prices. A light-house-looking bottle is new, and the long-necked jug-shaped body with two handles is rather quaint. The last-named is in three sizes costing 1s. 3d., 1s. 8d., and 2s. 3d. respectively. Bulk perfumes in nicely cut and labelled show-bottles are also made much of, and there is a fine assortment of coloured perfume-sprays gilt and silver mounted. One small barrel-shaped spray of spun glass took my fancy. There is a series of seven different colours, some of them very pretty. Packed perfumes, 6d. and 1s. sizes, are numerous. The bottles are nice, and the heavy gilt labels ought to sell them on sight. Turned wood boxes are, of course, one of Mr. Toogood's specialties. The latest box is of Mexican ebony. This is a heavy hard wood of a very pretty dark grain, and the specimens of polished puff-boxes and bottle-cases on view are most attractive. These boxes are naturally more expensive than boxwood, and will cost somewhat about the price of ebony. An improved aseptic all-glass hypodermic syringe (costing 6s.) has a neat clip affixed to the neck, which prevents the glass piston from dropping out altogether. Another novelty recently introduced by Mr. Toogood is the new process of printing directly on glass as applied to toilet-bottles. The printing of "lavender-water," for instance, directly on the bottle with any other wording required by the customer, his name and address being included, relieves one of many of the disadvantages (not to say cost) of printed labels. The printing is neat, distinct, and *distingué*, and on a tiny watch-shaped smeller it looks quite quaint. Judging by the specimens shown me, many pharmacists are finding this an additional attraction to their proprietaries. The printing is included with the price of the bottle, the 2-oz. green squares for lavender-water coming out at 21s. 6d. per gross, while the 4 oz. size is 23s. per gross. The same process is applicable to such things as ambers for photographic solutions, the cost being about half that incurred when enamelled labelling is employed.

MESSRS. JOHN SANGER & SONS

2 Winsley Street, Oxford Street, W., always have something worth seeing in their showrooms. In a recent hurried visit I noticed a series of violet-preparations comprising a violet toilet paraffin (for the hair), a violet poudre de riz, a violet brillantime, crème violette (in collapsible tubes), and a violet water-softener. Customer's name is printed on three-dozen quantities of the violet series. A fine array of sachet amulets are put upon cards, and retail at 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. each. Amongst other novelties I noted a black marking-ink pencil to sell at 3d., which may be used on linen like an ordinary lead pencil.

I arrived last Friday at

STAFFORD ALLEN & SONS' (LIMITED),

7 Cowper Street, Finsbury, E.C., just in the nick of time. The final touches were being put to the exhibit which the company are despatching to the St. Louis Exhibition. The exhibit was displayed practically as it will be next year in St. Louis, and is to form three sides of one of the octagonal stands which the British Commissioners have decided to adopt as a leading feature of this country's display. The stand is laid out in green curved terraces with copper lettering. With the drugs in handsome cut-glass containers a very striking *tout ensemble* is obtained. The drug-exhibit contains specimens of all the products grown or manufactured by the company, the samples being on quite a lavish scale. I noticed, for instance, a 3-gal. carboy of santal oil, and two 2-gal. carboys of almond oil—the one from *Prunus Amygdalus dulcis et amara*, and the other from *Prunus Armeniaca et Amygdalus persica*. A gallon vase of croton oil bewildered me when I came to reckon out the number of doses. Roughly, the exhibit can be divided into oils and herbs, the former including both expressed and essential oils, and the latter galenicals such as extracts. The essential oils shown include dill (from English seed), caraway, peppermint, lavender, coriander, anise, pennyroyal, savin, orris, chamomile, rosemary, buchu, juniper (berries), pepper, cardamoms, celery, cinnamon, cumin, pimento, copaiba, cloves, and cubebs. A large vase of eugenol from clove oil was remarkable for the entire absence of the smell of the oil from which it was derived, showing that the manufacturing process leaves nothing to be desired. Two globes of expressed oil of orris are shown on the front row. The herbs and galenicals

include henbane, valerian, aconite (*Napellus*), savin, rosemary-tops, dandelion-root, belladonna, pennyroyal, chamomile, lavender, peppermint, elaterium, the green extracts, mercurials, resinoids, and colocynth preparations. Large photographs of fields of aconite and lavender convey in concrete the fact that Stafford Allen & Sons are actual growers and distillers.

F. WOLFF & SON.

Mr. Chas. Fritsch, of 49 Theobald's Road, W.C., who is the London agent of Messrs. F. Wolff & Son, of Karlsruhe (in Baden), manufacturing perfumers and toilet-soap makers, make a speciality of "Divinia" perfume in stoppered French cut-glass bottles, put up singly in old-gold silk cases, the smallest size of which costs 52s. per dozen. It is a very fragrant and *recherche* article, as the price indicates. "Dew of Violets" is the name of another line, which is sold in imitation baskets of violets suitable for counter-display. This perfume has the natural odour of the flower, and retails at 2s. a bottle, the label bearing a pretty representation of the violet in colours. "Kallisto Violaacea," which obtained the gold medal at the Paris (1900) Exhibition, is a third line to which my attention was called, the price of which ranges from 32s. to 42s. per dozen. Among the soaps, of which Mr. Fritsch carries a large variety, are "Lily Milk," "Russian Violet," "Lily of the Valley," "Rose of Kasanlik," and "Oriental Lilac." These represent one of a new series in boxes of three tablets, wrapped, the wholesale price of which is 4s. per dozen tablets, or to retail at 1s. 6d. In order to give prospective customers an opportunity of judging Messrs. Wolff's goods, their agent is prepared to send the smallest quantity of any one article, carriage paid for the first time, and a liberal supply of perfumed almanacks, containing buxom feminine representations of the Four Elements—earth, water, air, and fire—after famous paintings by Moët.

CHEMISTS' CALENDARS.

MESSRS. FRANCIS & CO., chemists, Wrexham, send out an invitation to inspect Christmas perfumes in the form of a blotter-calendar. The card is perfumed.

FORSHAW'S ALMANACK FOR 1904 has a guaranteed circulation of 50,000 copies. Mr. T. G. Forshaw, 138 Westgate, Bradford, who produces it, gives a list of poison-antidotes and a couple of pages of "Useful Hints." The illustrations are of the local infirmaries.

THE CARD CALENDAR FOR 1904, sent out by Howards & Sons (Limited), Stratford, is, like previous issues, unostentatious and in excellent taste. The centre of the calendar is occupied by a reproduction of a portrait of Luke Howard, the founder of the firm, which this year was incorporated as a limited company.

THE ANNUAL FOR 1904, sent by Mr. W. Dennis, Grant Street, Jarrow, has half-tone reproductions of Mr. Dennis's photograph and shop-front, in addition to other illustrations. The photographic and optical side are made much of, but Mr. Dennis's own announcements are not given such prominence as we think they deserve.

MR. ALEX. ROBERTSON, manufacturer of Highland Sheep-dips, Oban, N.B., issues a pocket diary for 1904. This diary, in limp cover, is very convenient in size and arrangement, space being given for memoranda and cash account appertaining to each month. The advertising section is devoted to the agricultural specialities for which Mr. Robertson is so famed.

SPRATT'S PATENT (LIMITED), 24 and 25 Fenchurch Street, E.C., send us copies of their hanging calendar. A well-sculptured plastic design is varied on each page by the inclusion of a picture of a typical dog or bird. Each leaf (measuring 11 by 9 inches) remains in position for two months, and is then turned over to the back so that the information given on the animals illustrated is available all the year round.

THE ALMANAC AND FIRESIDE FRIEND sent out by Mr. Frederick Gibson, Gooch Street, Birmingham, has on the front a capital portrait of Mr. Gibson, with the inscription "A record: twenty-nine years handling millions of drugs without a mistake." The almanac contains a lot of useful matter, and Mr. Gibson's own goods are well brought forward. One of the illustrations, which covers two pages, shows a group of these specialities.

Winter Session.

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association.

THE monthly meeting of the above Association was held at the Albert Restaurant on December 17. There were present Mr. E. Worth (President) in the chair, Messrs. William Reid, Hardwick, Jones, Bilson, Bingham, Morris, Robinson, and Rose (Hon. Secretary).

THE C.O.D. SYSTEM.

The SECRETARY reported that he had received a communication from the Ironmongers' Association enclosing a petition in opposition to the proposed introduction of a "cash on delivery" parcel-post system, and asking the Association to join with the Trades' Associations of the town in a combined opposition. A long discussion took place on the merits and demerits of the scheme. Mr. MORRIS considered that chemists ought certainly to oppose the scheme, but he was afraid the scheme could not be stopped as the Postmaster-General has expressed his sympathy with it. At the same time, the Association ought not to hesitate to oppose it. Mr. WILLIAMS considered it would not affect a large town like Bournemouth, and could see no objection to it. He had had some experience of the scheme, as it was in use in America some seventeen years ago. It was ultimately agreed to write to the local M.P., and also to the Postmaster-General, protesting against the scheme.

THE PRICE QUESTION.

The attention of members was then called to a circular enclosed by Messrs. Bishop inside their packages of "Calculusol," stating the cost-price of the article. After discussion, the Secretary was instructed to write to Messrs. Bishop, stating that the Association considered it very unwise to publish the cost-price in that manner, and also to ask for any explanation the company may desire to make.

Reference was next made to the protected prices adopted by Messrs. Savory & Moore. The opinion of the meeting was that whilst welcoming schemes which gave chemists an assured profit, it was to be regretted that the prices of some articles were fixed so low. A letter was instructed to be sent to Messrs. Savory & Moore pointing out that the rate of "profit" on the peptonised cocoa and coffee was less than 1*d.* in the shilling—a rate at which it is impossible to carry on a business.

Burnley Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday evening, December 17, Mr. Walker presiding. At the early stage of the meeting there were also present Messrs. J. Brown (Secretary), W. O. Coates, J. Heaton, Clarkon, Nehemiah Tomlinson, Luther Tomlinson, C. G. Croke (Burnley), and Hirst (Colne).

THE MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS.

The CHAIRMAN said that as action respecting the stamp-duties had been postponed for three months, he did not see that they could decide upon any particular procedure until nearer the expiration of this time, when no doubt they would know something more definite than at present.

Mr. HEATON said the fact was that they and the Pharmaceutical Society did not take the stand that the Grocers' Association and others had done. The Grocers' Association were far ahead of them in that respect, and got whatever concessions were granted. They as chemists never got any. If they were not careful, they would be in a worse position three months hence than when they started: they would have to stamp things they never had stamped.

The CHAIRMAN said they would be able to hold out preparations of their own as remedies, which they had not been able to do before.

Mr. HEATON: They will take that from us if we are not careful.

Mr. CROOKE thought the three months' grace granted at the request of the grocers was not calculated to be a good thing for chemists. It gave the grocers an opportunity of getting concessions they never should have had.

Mr. BROWN: The chemists should have been prepared to

accept the law. (Hear, hear.) The question is whether we should now take up an agitation as regards the concessions previously granted to us and now withdrawn.

Mr. HEATON: It is simply playing a baby's game the way they have been acting lately. We do not know where we are.

Mr. COATES: And have not any time this last three months.

The CHAIRMAN said they would perhaps get at something more definite when the new regulations came into force.

Mr. BROWN said the authorities would go on as they had done in the past.

Mr. COATES said there was nothing in the Act to compel them to disclose the formulas of their preparations. If it was a well-known and approved formula that was sufficient.

Mr. HEATON: But don't they say Gregory's powder is liable?

Mr. COATES: Not if sold by a chemist.

Mr. N. TOMLINSON referred to other preparations which had been declared to be liable, and said that though the Act might seem clear on this point, the question was whether individual chemists would care to fight the authorities.

OTHER BUSINESS.

On the motion of Mr. HEATON, seconded by Mr. BROWN, it was decided to close all day on Christmas Day and the Tuesday following.

Mr. BROWN introduced the question of bonuses. One member of the Association was returning a penny in the shilling, and it had been reported to him that another was giving a shilling in the pound, and a third 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound. They would probably be hearing next of somebody giving 2*s.* in the pound, and somebody else 2*s.* 6*d.* Then he should begin to wonder how they were going to live.

This was freely discussed by the members with special reference to its bearing upon the P.A.T.A. conditions, and ultimately it was decided to leave the matter as it stands with the present expression of disapproval.

Mr. BROWN said the doctors of the district had asked if the Chemists' Association would provide them with a list of the qualified and unqualified men in the district. It was decided that lists be supplied.

Mr. BROWN also drew attention to the fact that the Burnley Corporation are supplying disinfecting-powder in large or small quantities to anybody who cares to apply. They also supply householders with Jeyes' soap at less than chemists can buy it. The soap had been offered to a mill-owner. The Corporation had also given a large order to an outsider for feeding-bottles, which were supplied to poor parents at a nominal sum. Mr. HEATON, as a member of the Corporation, said he would have the matter looked into, and after a free expression of opinion Mr. HEATON moved that a letter of protest be sent to the Town Clerk with regard to the general trade in merchandise carried on by the Corporation, especially in the sale of soaps, disinfectants, &c. Mr. N. TOMLINSON seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. CROOKE was elected a member of the Association.

It was decided to hold the annual dinner about the end of February or early in March.

Subsequently, at an informal meeting of the chemists giving bonuses, it was agreed to withdraw them on January 1 provided all are unanimous.

Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association.

THERE was a fair attendance of members at the monthly meeting at 94 West Regent Street, Glasgow, on Thursday evening, December 17, when Mr. J. F. Tocher, Ph.C., F.I.C. (Peterhead), explained his scheme of

TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATION.

Mr. W. L. CURRIE presided, and, in introducing the lecturer, said the subject of territorial representation was not new in Glasgow, as the Association had discussed it on more than one occasion.

Mr. TOCHER, after a few introductory remarks, said he had been quite surprised to find that his scheme had caught on so well throughout the country, and he wished to thank publicly those pharmacists from every part of the country who had written him expressing approval not only of territorial repre-

sentation, but of his own scheme. He mentioned that Mr. Charles Thompson, of Birmingham, in 1892 first brought the matter forward, and alluded to the fact that Mr. Newsholme at Sheffield on the previous night had condemned his (Mr. Tocher's) scheme. He then showed on the walls a series of maps depicting the territorial divisions proposed in his own scheme and those of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Waddington, explaining that his own scheme was strictly analogous to Parliamentary representation. It had been stated by somebody—Mr. Kemp, of Manchester, he thought—that he had not shown the advantages, but that he only dealt with computations. Then he noticed that Mr. Waddington a fortnight ago had something to say about the way he (Mr. Tocher) proposed to carry out his scheme, and something about the way he (Mr. Waddington) proposed to carry out his own. What he said about his (Mr. Tocher's) scheme was that it was cumbersome and defective in the respect that he provided for triennial elections, whereas he thought his (Mr. Waddington's) scheme better because he provided for an election in some part of the country every year. Now, proceeded Mr. Tocher,

if Mr. Waddington's scheme is superior to mine because it provides for an election in some part of the country every year, he must show that this provision is absent from mine. Now, that provision is in mine, and I consider it is defective because it is present. In my scheme there is an annual election, but the vote is a triennial one, because each member of the Pharmaceutical Society has only a vote once in three years for his own representative. That cannot be otherwise without amending the Act of Parliament, because the present Act of Parliament provides that seven members shall retire annually. In my scheme seven seats in the Council fall vacant every year, corresponding to seven districts; in the second year seven other seats will fall vacant, corresponding to other seven districts; and in the third year the remaining seven fall vacant and are elected, and so the scheme is complete. Now what is Mr. Waddington's scheme? Briefly, it is to divide the country into eight territorial districts, having two representatives in each district except the home group, which returns seven members—quite a little Council of its own. He gives Wales, with 757 chemists, two members; he gives Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Durham, which group has more than twice the number of chemists that Wales has—1,873; and he gives that group also two members. He proceeds with caution with a certain part of Great Britain known as Scotland, which gets two members for an unknown number of chemists. That is to say, he did not venture to enumerate Scotland. Israel has been numbered, but not Judah! (Laughter.) I wonder whose icy hand stayed the worn-out enumerator and warned him of the pestilence. (Laughter.)

In this fashion Mr. Tocher proceeded to reply to his critics, including in them that pharmaceutical writer in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* "whose *nom de plume* fits in appropriately as he deals with shadows." Mr. Tocher maintained that the subject is as much an English as a Scotch question, and said, in reference to a paper by Mr. H. Kemp, that if representation is not to be based upon numbers, he would be done with it for ever. Speaking of Scotland, he said he was sorry the West of Scotland did not show up better as regards the proportion of chemists in relation to the population. The number of chemists in the West of Scotland was very small in respect to population as compared with the North and with the East. That was due to two reasons. In the first place, in Glasgow and the West a great many medical men did their own dispensing; and, in the second place, the number of chemists did not increase in the same ratio as the population. With regard to the division in Scotland, should his scheme of territorial representation be adopted they should have three, and not two, members on the Council—one for Edinburgh and the East, one for the West of Scotland, and one for the North of Scotland. Under the new order of things pharmacists would be able to get better at their members of Council, and would realise the aspiration of Jacob Bell—that the Pharmaceutical Council should be a complete reflection of the minds of the pharmacists of the country. (Applause.)

DISCUSSION.

Mr. DAVID MOIR opened the discussion, and said the details Mr. Tocher had given them of his scheme would perhaps require a good deal more consideration than they could give them off-hand. In Glasgow they had always held out that Scotland ought to have three members on the Council. The English members of the Pharmaceutical Society were a very

estimable body of men, but most of them in Scotland knew nothing about them. He did not see why the Pharmaceutical Society should not take this question up, and moved—

That this meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association approves of the principle of district or territorial representation of the Pharmaceutical Council, and approves generally of Mr. Tocher's scheme, and that this resolution be transmitted to the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations.

Mr. J. W. SUTHERLAND seconded the resolution. To his mind Mr. Tocher's scheme was the best that had yet been submitted. He was quite sure that if this scheme were carried out it would be a powerful means of increasing the membership of the Society and of stimulating interest in pharmaceutical matters.

Mr. T. MABEN said the resolution was such a mild one that it was hardly worth while moving an amendment. Mr. Sutherland, he considered, had put his finger on the weak point in this scheme. It was too parochial. A man would be able to exercise his vote, but would never be able to exercise it but for the man who was his next-door neighbour. In three cases out of four there never would be an election if a member was willing to stand again. He did not suppose, if Mr. Currie wanted to go back to London, there would be any election so far as Glasgow was concerned.

Mr. TOCHER: There would be no necessity.

Mr. MABEN: In that case the enthusiasm in regard to matters pharmaceutical would very soon evaporate. A better way would be to divide the country into seven districts, and give every district three representatives, and have an election for one in each year. That would give them the reflection of the entire mind of the country every year, which Mr. Tocher's plan would not.

Mr. WALKER expressed views on the same lines as Mr. Maben's.

Mr. RIDDELL supported Mr. Moir's motion, and in the course of his speech said the members of Council at present seem to do as they like, but under Mr. Tocher's scheme that would be changed, as they would have to express the ideas of their districts.

Mr. BOYD was inclined to support Mr. Maben's idea, and suggested that a scheme of territorial representation should be put into the Pharmacy Bill.

Mr. J. P. GILMOUR said to his mind the distinctive merit of Mr. Tocher's scheme was that it proved the value of the numerical principle. The only real equality is that of numbers. He thought many of Mr. Tocher's critics overlooked the fact that his scheme was deliberately an accommodation to the present state of the law.

Mr. SINCLAIR also spoke in favour of Mr. Tocher.

The PRESIDENT said that more than ten years ago he had an idea that the method of election to the Council was not the correct one. Territorial representation to his mind was the ideal form of election. He did not approve of an annual election, and thought the annual election of Local Secretaries was a pure farce. Referring to remarks by Mr. Maben (which he freely criticised), the President said it was a question whether he (Mr. Currie) should be able to express opinions at the Pharmaceutical Council Board in a manner consonant with the views of the electorate he represented, and on the very first opportunity he might get turned off. And he should not be sorry. He maintained that by territorial representation they would have a better reflection of the minds of pharmacists of any particular district than they could possibly have at the present time. The Federation of Local Associations (of which the speaker is Chairman) undertook to send to every local Association in Great Britain Mr. Tocher's paper, and ask them to consider the scheme, and report their findings to the Executive. A good many replies had already been sent to the Secretary, and he expected that by the end of January the Secretary would know the result.

Mr. TOCHER, in replying to the discussion, dealt with the suggestion that an effort should be made to have a scheme of territorial representation embodied in the Pharmacy Bill. He purposely avoided this point until the principle has been accepted. After that they could go in for an Act of Parliament.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

East Indian News.

COPPER IN GARHWAL.—It is reported upon trustworthy authority that extensive deposits of copper have been discovered at Garhwal, United Provinces, and that a company, with several well-known Calcutta commercial men as directors, will shortly be formed to exploit them.

A TRIBUTE.—The Indian Government have passed orders directing that the Vaccine Institute and Bacteriological Laboratory at Guindy be named "The King Institute of Preventive Medicine," a graceful recognition of the good work done by Lieut.-Col. W. G. King, I.M.S.

CHEMISTRY SCHOLARSHIPS.—To encourage the study of analytical chemistry the Mysore Durbar has established four scholarships of Rs. 40 per month in the laboratory of the Agricultural Department. The scholarships will be tenable for one year, and will be open to candidates who have taken the B.A. degree in physical science or any other branch of natural science.

AN INDIAN MEDICAL FACTORY.—The scheme for establishing a medical factory at Nasik, which forms part of the general policy of making India as far as possible self-contained and self-providing against possible emergency, is now being steadily advanced. Colonel Carruthers, I.M.S., Madras, who was placed on special duty last year to push the scheme forward, has lately been in Simla conferring with the heads of the departments concerned.

American Notes.

CAMPHORATED OIL.—The State Board of Pharmacy of New York brought an action recently against Goldwater's Drug-stores, on the charge of having violated the State Pharmacy law by selling camphorated oil which was not up to pharmacopoeial requirements. It was contended on behalf of the defendants that the Pharmacopoeia does not mention camphorated oil by name. In his decision in favour of the Board, Judge Tierney said that camphorated oil and camphorated liniment were one and the same thing, that camphorated oil was the common name by which it was usually known, but all the ingredients were the same as those given in the Pharmacopoeia for camphorated liniment. Judgment was rendered for the plaintiff for \$25 and costs.

A WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION.—The Society of Women Pharmacists and Chemists of Pennsylvania has been formed "to bring about a better relation between women and men pharmacists, to assist young women in the study of pharmacy and chemistry, to promote in others further interest in the study of either, and to assist each other in business." Portraits of the officers of the Society appeared in a recent issue of the *Pharmaceutical Era*. The Hon. President, Dr. Susan Hayhurst, is said to have been the first woman pharmacist in the United States. She graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1883, and is director of the Woman's Hospital Pharmacy in the Quaker City. The President, Miss Susannah G. Haydock, graduated from the same college ten years later, after which she opened in business for herself in Philadelphia. Miss Mabelle Haydock, the Secretary, is a graduate from Temple College, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and Heagland University. She was four years with the President, a year as chief pharmacist at the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women, and a term as chemist to Messrs. Johnson & Johnson preceded her present employment with Messrs. Wm. R. Warner & Co. as director of the chemical laboratories. She also conducts a private laboratory, principally for food and water analysis. The Vice-President of the Society—Mrs. Bertha L. De G. Peacock—is also a graduate of the Philadelphia College. She is assistant in her husband's pharmacy in Philadelphia.

The imports of drugs and medicines into the island of Formosa during 1902 amounted to 15,941*l.*, against 24,051*l.* in 1901. Such as are used in the hospitals and the various Government departments appear to be nearly all of German origin, says our Consul at Tamsui.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with O. N. DALTON, Esq., O.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 2, 1903.)

"PEPTA"; for a medicine. By R. H. Mushens, 6 Lambton Street, Sunderland. 257,661.

"VOLFANGO"; for chemicals. By C. B. Winsall, 164 Well-meadow Road, Catford, S.E. 258,060.

Device (the essential particular); for "Sanguinosa," a blood-purifier. By Van Geelkerken & Co. (Limited), 79 Mark Lane, E.C. 257,843.

"VARO"; for a medicine. By the Berliner Hygiene Gesellschaft, Berlin, c/o L. E. Townroe, 26 Budge Row, E.C. 258,164.

Combination of devices (essential particular); for an ointment. By T. Reekie, 27 Streatfield Street, Limehouse, E. 258,113.

Label-device (two rabbits and a bunch of flowers); for colours in Class 4. By Volkart Brothers, 93-98, Leadenhall Street, E.C. 257,371.

"AGOR"; for photographic printing-papers and cards. By Banks & Co., 47 Saverlake Road, N.W. 258,166.

"LUPOL" (the essential particular); for tablets consisting of a hop-preparation for brewing-purposes. By A. L. Burlin, 42 Lichfield Street, Burton-on-Trent. 257,624.

"RADIUM"; for mineral and aerated waters. By Wheatley & Bates (Limited), 14 Napier Street, Sheffield. 257,667.

"ALPOL" ("Alp" disclaimed); for perfumery, &c. By Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), Birmingham. 258,283.

"PHASTICO" ("Fast Stick" disclaimed); for cement. By J. G. Wilkins, 6 Prudhoe Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 257,929.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 9, 1903.)

"CIDOLENE"; for disinfectants. By J. Gardner, 25 Forest Road, Dalston, E. 258,057.

"NANBERRY"; for Clarkson's Nanberry salve (a veterinary preparation). By M. Clarkson, Market Place, Richmond, Yorkshire, chemist. 258,106.

"URALINE" ("Ural" disclaimed); for a headache-powder. By R. Dixon, 673 Eccleshall Road, Hunter's Bar, Sheffield, pharmaceutical chemist. 257,950.

Combination of devices; for a kidney-and-liver salt. By C. R. Lamb, 8 St. Martin's Court, Newgate Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 254,337.

"SANDOSA"; for a patent medicine. By R. A. Panchaud, 9 Fenchurch Street, E.C. 255,749.

"VELVENE"; for articles in Class 3. By W. E. Robinson, Derby Buildings, Long Row West, Nottingham. 257,032.

"TATNETTE"; for surgical instruments. By H. T. Sykes, 280 Regent Street, W. 258,407.

"PHARMA"; for an infants' food. By J. Taylor, 132 Trongate, Glasgow, wholesale druggist. 254,702.

"MARVO"; for detergents in Class 47. By W. Collis, 40A Standon Park, Forest Hill, S.E. 256,884.

"COLOGNETTES"; for perfumery, &c. By A. Fryers, 111 Station Road, Pendlebury, Lancs. 257,635.

"DIMPLE"; for perfumed soap. By Lever Brothers (Limited), Port Sunlight. 257,949.

"CUTIMOL" ("Cuti" disclaimed); for a skin-preparation. By Alexander Rawlins and Jane Paul, 26 Grand Parade, Harringay, N. 258,052.

"VEGLIONE"; for a perfume ("Veglione Bouquet"). By Lecaron et fils, Paris, c/o Irvine & Borrowman, 25 Crutched Friars, E.C. 258,025.

"GUESSODORA"; for games. By F. W. Warrick, 7 Nile Street, City Road, N. 258,518.

Festivities.

SOCIAL ASSISTANTS.

The Chemists' Assistants' Association held a musical and social evening at 73 Newman Street, W., on December 17, the President (Mr. A. B. Britton) being in the chair. The names of Messrs. Latreille, Griffiths, Jones, Morley, Barker, Durham, Wilson, Taylor, Blin, and Webb appeared on the programme, and Mr. Parker acted as accompanist. A whip round on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society's Benevolent Fund realised 10s. 7d., and a very pleasant evening was passed by the members and friends.



A STUDENTS' SMOKER.

The annual smoking-concert of the Liverpool School of Pharmacy was held on December 16, at the Victoria Restaurant, Basnett Street, Liverpool. Professor Boyce, from the University, took the chair, and made an appropriate speech on the study of pharmacy. The musical programme was ably rendered by Messrs. Bennett, Bice, Lenton, Mapei, Maynard, Pickles, and Welch. A clever conjuring-display was given by Mr. Berrill. During the evening Messrs. Bice and Welch, on behalf of the students, made presentations to the principal, Mr. Cowley, Ph.C., and to Mr. Catford. A very pleasant evening was terminated by votes of thanks to the chairman, artists, and the others.

ENTERTAINING THE EMPLOYÉS.

Messrs. Raimes, Clark & Co. entertained their employés on Thursday evening, December 17, in Smith's Hall, Duke Street, Leith. Mr. Richard Clark occupied the chair, and was accompanied by Mrs. Clark. Mr. W. A. Davies was also present. After a substantial tea had been discussed by a company numbering over one hundred, Mr. Clark and Mr. Davies each addressed the gathering, and expressed the pleasure it gave them to be present at the annual social function. A photographic lecture was given by Mr. Halley, the firm's Glasgow representative, and was much enjoyed. The other contributors to the programme were Misses Montgomery, Hynd, Barnetson, and Gray, and Messrs. Smith, Fraser, and Hynd. On behalf of the employés, Mr. J. P. Gibb moved a vote of thanks to the firm, which was heartily accorded. Dancing was thereafter engaged in, and the proceedings did not terminate until an early hour in the morning.

A VIBRONA EVENING.

On Saturday, December 19, the staff of Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co. (Limited) were entertained to dinner in the Athenæum, Enfield, by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Fletcher, to mark the close of another progressive year, and also to bid farewell to Miss Emily F. Dilworth, who has been with the firm for fourteen years, and is leaving to be married. Mr. Fletcher presided over a very merry party, and Mr. F. Bascombe was in the vice-chair. After dinner Mr. Fletcher presented Miss Dilworth, on behalf of the firm, with an illuminated address (exquisitely printed by their own press) and a purse of money; then Mr. Dash (an employé of twenty-five years' standing) handed her a specimen piece of a dinner-service given by the staff, and Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher added a handsome chiming clock. Mr. Bascombe then, to the delight of the company, gave the health of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher and their daughters, and after the enthusiasm had subsided Mr. Fletcher modestly replied. "The Ladies" having been honoured, the hall was turned into a drawing-room, and a musical programme was opened by the Misses Fletcher. Several of the staff (both ladies and gentlemen) showed considerable musical and vocal talent, and everything was done with spontaneity and heartiness. At 10.30 the company formed a ring and sang "Auld Lang Syne," and a most enjoyable evening was thus brought to a close.

CRITICISING THE EXAMINATIONS.

The annual supper of the students of the Edinburgh Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy took place in Ferguson & Forrester's Rooms, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on December 18, Mr. William Duncan, Ph.C., F.C.S. (Principal), presiding and Messrs. W. G. Mackenzie, Ph.C., and E. J. Brown, Ph.S., acting as croupiers. There were about eighty present

including Dr. John Cumming, Dr. George Coull, Messrs. D. B. Dott (Chairman of the North British Branch), Peter Boa (Chairman of the Board of Examiners in Scotland), Archibald Currie (President Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association), J. F. Tocher, D. McEwan, J. Blenkiron, J. Rutherford Hill, &c. After an excellent supper, and the loyal toasts having been duly honoured, Dr. John Cumming proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." He recalled the time when he himself was engaged in the practice of pharmacy and when he was a student at the Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy. He had a lively recollection of his experiences at the Minor examination, which he humorously described as it was then conducted. He regarded pharmacy as an honourable profession, but he thought they were very inadequately remunerated, and for that reason he was not sorry when he was able to leave it behind and step into the ranks of medicine. He believed the Pharmaceutical Society had done, and was doing, much for pharmacy. He would like to see the North British Branch reconstituted in some way that would give it a stronger position and more independence than it at present possessed. Mr. D. B. Dott, in responding, said he would not undertake to reply for the Council of the Society, for he knew no more of their proceedings than any ordinary reader of the journals. He agreed with Dr. Cumming's reference to the North British Branch. He did not think they should be merely a registering instrument moved from the London office. A little more autonomy would do good. The interferences from the South, prompted by the aggressive action of perhaps one member of Council, had not always been beneficial, and he thought a local body meeting on the spot was generally better able to judge what was right to be done. Alluding to the large percentage of failures in the Minor examination, he said he was afraid there was a tendency to fix a false standard. He thought the examination should be divided so as to give time for the work to be done by both candidates and examiners in a more leisurely way, thus allowing a fairer judgment. Mr. Storrar sometimes told them that the North British Branch was a somewhat nebulous body, and he would be glad if something could be done to render its position more definite and useful. Mr. D. McEwan proposed "The Board of Examiners," which was acknowledged by Mr. Peter Boa. Dr. George Coull, in proposing "The Pharmacy Students," alluded to the distinguished men—Messrs. Boa and Tocher among others—who had been trained in the Royal, and trusted that the present race would maintain the high reputation of the School. Mere passing an examination was not all they looked for in a pharmacy student. Many good men failed from sheer nervousness, and he did not wonder at it when he thought of some percentage calculations that had been given in the past at the Minor. Remembering his own experience, he trusted that while he occupied a seat on the board he would be able to judge rightly the capabilities of all, and to distinguish between nervousness and ignorance in a candidate. Mr. Duncan, in replying, said all examinations were more or less of a lottery, and the Minor—no matter whom you placed on the Board of Examiners—would never be free of it. Men occupying judicial positions must speak *ex cathedra*, and it was remarkable how quickly the pharmaceutical examiner became an adept at the task. He trusted they would not let themselves imagine Dr. Coull would prove different from his predecessors, or that his appointment would diminish the rate of failures. There were certain things that could be done to avert the possibility of good men getting "spun"—such as the suggested division of the examination—but that raised the question of more money, and the fees had already been raised to breaking point. On the chemistry side there was little cause for complaint, for although some of them might think Mr. Tocher was "a beast," yet in honesty they must admit that he was "a just beast," like the late Archbishop of Canterbury. The percentage-calculations to which reference was made had certainly become modified, but "trickery" in the dispensing-department had not yet become quite extinct, and, strange to say, Mr. Boa was as great a culprit as any. It was humiliating to teacher and student alike to think that they must, if their reward is to come soon, prepare themselves for the peculiarities of certain examiners. Mr. J. F. Tocher proposed "The Medical Profession." He entirely agreed with the view that there ought to be more

time given for practical work in the Minor examination. The examination should have been divided years ago, and he hoped it would be divided soon. Many men failed also for want of preparation. Three months was too short a time by far, and even six months was not long enough. With regard to the fee difficulty, he had a scheme in hand by which he hoped the Carnegie Trust might be made available. His idea was that their Principal—from whose tuition he derived much benefit—might be recognised as teaching for the University both in regard to pharmaceutical and medical students. Dr. Cumming, in replying, hoped Mr. Tocher's idea of a curriculum would be realised. Other toasts were "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. R. McDougall, replied to by Mr. H. M. Spoor, and "The Chairman and Croupiers," proposed by Mr. A. Currie, and replied to by Messrs. Duncan, Mackenzie, and Brown. During the evening Mr. H. Clarkson, on behalf of the students, presented to Mr. Duncan a gift of books, and to Messrs. Mackenzie and Brown a case of pipes each. Songs, recitations, and musical selections by Messrs. Spoor, Bertram, McManus, Corson, Tait, Caithness, Duncan, Fairful, D. Hill, J. R. Hill, Stoddart, Hirst, Low, Shepherd, and Bowskill made up an exceedingly enjoyable evening, Messrs. Fairful, Bowskill, and Tait acting efficiently as accompanists.

THE CHEMISTS' BALL

is to be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, London, W.C., on Wednesday, January 20, 1904. The following have agreed to act as stewards:

J. J. Arrow
A. R. Arrowsmith
S. R. Atkins
W. A. Baiss
I. Bourdas
J. W. Bowen
R. Bremridge
G. E. Bridge
M. Carteighe
R. L. Cassie
R. D. Dixon
T. Farries
F. M. Fisk
Alan Francis
W. Garsed
F. Capel Hanbury
F. J. Hanbury
John F. Harrington
R. K. Harvey
Vivian C. Hewlett
C. A. Hill
E. W. Hill
Walter Hills
C. Hodgkinson
Edward Horner
Leonard Horner
D. Lloyd Howard
W. I. Howie
E. A. Hugill
J. H. Hugill
T. H. W. Idris

W. Adpar Jones
Geo. A. Lansdown
Fred. N. Layman
Peter MacEwan
C. W. Martin
W. H. Martindale
G. Mathey
Charles Maw
A. Morson
G. T. W. Newsholme
Alfred C. Preston
Clifford Probyn
Lawrence J. Read
J. Morgan Richards
R. A. Robinson, jun.
F. Ashley Rogers
H. W. Royle
Charles Sanger
A. L. Savory
H. Silverlock
A. H. Solomon
F. U. Stamp
Ernest A. Umney
John C. Umney
H. Walker
W. P. Want
W. Warren
F. W. Warriack
John A. Wink
Herbert C. Wright

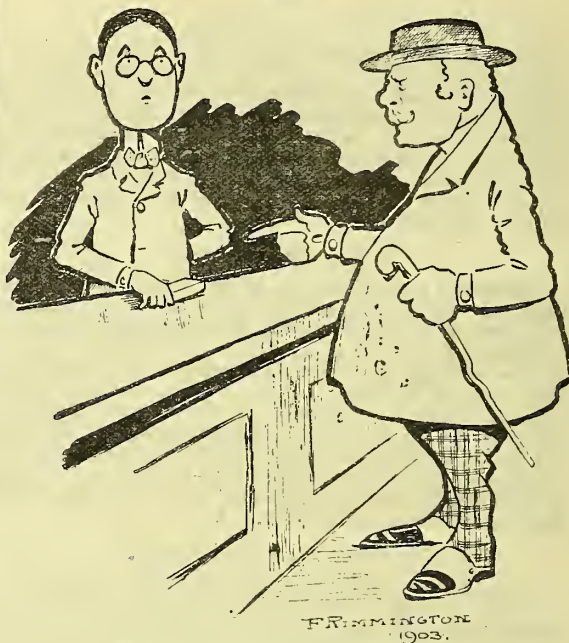
Application for tickets (lady's 12s. 6d., gentleman's 17s. 6d.) may be made to the above or to Richard A. Robinson, jun., Hon. Secretary, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.

Scientific Progress.

Nicotine.—Pictet (*Pharm. Central*, 1903, 756) has effected a complete synthesis of the alkaloid nicotine from pyridine. The steps by which this body is converted into amido-pyridine and then into nicotine are well known. Nicotyrine is reduced by zinc and hydrochloric acid into dihydronicotyrine, and this is converted into the perbromide by means of bromine. This perbromide is reduced with zinc and hydrochloric acid, and inactive nicotine results.

Austrian Turpentine.—Tschirch and Schmidt (*Archiv. der Pharmacie*, 1903, 583) have investigated crude Austrian turpentine with the following results: They find present 25 per cent. of laticopinic acid, an amorphous acid of the formula $C_{21}H_{30}O_5$; 34 per cent. of laticopinonic acid, a crystalline acid of the formula $C_{20}H_{28}O_4$; 35 per cent. of essential oil of sp. gr. 0.872, boiling between 154° and 164° ; 2 per cent. of indifferent resene; and 3 to 4 per cent. of impurities of an indefinite nature.

The Kaleidoscope.



Known, Admitted, and Approved.

CRUSTY OLD GENT: "How do you know that indigestion-cure is a good thing?"

ABSENT-MINDED APPRENTICE: "I heard the 'guvner' say he made two-and-threepence on every half-crown bottle."



But not yet Admitted (to the Bar).

M'Lud,—Although you may not think it to look at me, I am a chemist and druggist who has served a regular apprenticeship. I am the respondent in *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones*, and in any matter which threatens the professional or commercial interests of chemists your Ludship may rely that I will give you every assistance For the Defence.

MESSRS. THOS. BRYANT & Co., chemical and produce merchants, have removed from 5 Market Buildings, Mincing Lane, E.C., to London Commercial Sale-rooms, 30 Mincing Lane, E.C.

Observations and Reflections.

BY XRAYSER.

The Tabloid Judgment

was what most chemists expected it would be. The word has a familiar look and sound, and Mr. Justice Byrne spoke for a good many of us when he confessed to his own surprise at finding that it was not a dictionary word before 1884. At first it evidently figured in the perspective of the Judge's memory with the acidulated drops and caraway comfits which he recalled so affectionately. Then apparently he had rummaged through old dictionaries for it, but in vain. There was no trace of the term in pre-1884 literature. When Dr. Murray gets to T it may prove that one of his myriad searchers has dug the word from some forgotten tome, but pending that possibility there is no alternative to the admission of Mr. Wellcome's claim that he devised it.

But What of That?

asked Mr. Walter. There was no invention in the mere combination of *table* and *oid*, and the descriptive character of the resulting dissyllable is obvious. It was a merely natural development of the English language. As Mark Twain once said, there was nothing wonderful in the discovery of America by Columbus; it would have been wonderful if he had missed it. The little bit of ingenuity, however, manifested in linking together those syllables, simple though it seems, is to be protected; and justly, I think, especially as, after all, the protection, though granted nominally to the word, is in fact given to the enterprise built thereon. Nobody is deprived of anything which was common right before 1884, and the privilege of creating a property in some other invented word yet unthought of remains open to the rest of the world. But the construction of a new name is only one step, and a very small one, towards the establishment of a property which could be worth such a fight as that of Wellcome v. Thompson & Capper.

Associated Buying

is becoming a usual feature of provincial chemists' societies, and as it is likely to be still more generally adopted, the publication of the rules of the Brighton "Buying Club" is opportune. Apparently at Brighton the use of space for stock, and the services of the depôt-keeper are to be free. The latter will, no doubt, get a vote of thanks at the end of the year, and will then probably politely resign. Whoever he is, he ought to be paid a percentage, however small, on the turnover. The proprietary articles, with which alone, it may be presumed, the scheme will be concerned, yield an additional 5 to 10 per cent. if bought for cash at first hand. One per cent. would not be too much to give the person who undertakes the ordering and the stocking, supervises the distribution, and conducts what little correspondence and bookkeeping may be necessary.

The Greatest Feat in Advertising

ever performed was completed last Saturday, when the booming of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" was brought to a brilliant finish. To measure adequately the size of the scheme which the two young Americans, Messrs. Hooper and Jackson, planned, it is essential to realise how it looked a year or so ago. First the *Times* had to be captured, itself no mean achievement. Then came the prodigious task of educating the slow British public to a burning desire for a work of which they knew

only the title, and the possession of which was as wild a notion as would have been the ownership of a pet elephant. By a series of advertisements of really astonishing ability, arguments were piled on arguments, always presented in type which insisted on being read, and appealing in turns to our curiosity, to our intellects, to our superior souls, to our gambling instincts, to our scientific, our artistic, our commercial tastes, to our national pride, and to our love of a bargain, until at last the idea which began by amusing us, gradually assumed a possible, then a plausible, and finally a peremptory, aspect. It is said that some 700,000*l.* worth of "Encyclopædias" have been placed, and though not one in fifty of the purchasers will read one-fiftieth of the pages, they might have spent their money far worse. Now the *Times* returns to what it regards as "legitimate profits," which are 100 per cent. *plus* what it and the Americans made and the cost of advertising.

The French Olive-oil Industry,

which the American Consul at Marseilles declares to be so pure, must have become so in spite of strong temptations. Cotton-seed oil is not by any means the only oil which blends so admirably with that of the olive that in many regions, according to the Consul, popular taste insists upon the combination. Coprah (cocoanut husks) and arachides (ground-nuts) are imported and pressed in very large quantities in Marseilles, where the greatest olive-oil factories are also situated. With one or two exceptions these are all worked with the utmost secrecy. Poppy-seed oil is also produced in considerable quantity in France, and in the eighteenth century it was the subject of several decrees. Olive oil having become very scarce, poppy-seed oil got a good start. It was much cheaper, and the people liked it as well. When olive oil became abundant again the producers maligned the poppy oil by getting medical men to say that it possessed narcotic and dangerous qualities. Ultimately the Faculty of Medicine was asked to investigate, and the poppy oil came unscathed out of the ordeal. Still the olive oil partisans continued their efforts, and at last got a decree forbidding the sale of poppy-seed oil altogether unless it were first "spoiled" by the addition of turpentine. This was expressly done in the interests of the South. Later, when the northern provinces of the country recovered influence, the decree was rescinded.

Professor Redwood

figures as a "scientist" in Mr. H. G. Wells's latest outrage on the possibilities. Mr. Wells's story is published in *Pearson's Magazine*, and is called "The Food of the Gods." But the Redwood of the romance is not at all the Redwood we knew. Mr. Wells's hero was Professor of Physiology in the Bond Street College of the London University, "a most ordinary, slightly nervous-looking, dark man." He and a fellow-scientist named Bensington invent a wonderful food, which Bensington tries on chickens and Redwood on his baby, both with marvellous effects. So far the tale is absurd, but not very funny. It will have to improve very considerably before pharmacists will forgive Mr. Wells for his annexation of even the name of their old honoured teacher.

In the exportation of chemical products from Belgium last year a reduction of 6 per cent. in amount took place, the most important fact being a decrease of 45 per cent. in carbonate of soda.

A LICENCE for the sale of opium was put up for auction recently at Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, and sold to a native, who has held the licence for some years, at 450*l.* Opium, it transpired, was given in large quantities to bulls worked in carts, to prevent them from getting rheumatism.

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"Formie Fumigators," "Formie Aldehyde"

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Patent Preserved Peroxide of Hydrogen, and Carbolic
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No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ cwt.	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes).	18/ cwt.
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Pharmaceutical Journal.

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The Editorial Note

For this week is

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND

A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

To all C. & D. readers at home and abroad.

A Glance Back.

WE had written "1903," but at this moment more than a week of the third year of the century has still to come, and Time, even in its fractions, is potential of changes. We cannot pretend at this writing to sum up all that has happened in British pharmacy during 1903. This last number of a closing year should not go to press without some reference in it to the outstanding events.

British pharmacy is a very mixed affair, and is not confined to the doings of the 15,000 to 16,000 persons whose names are on the register of chemists and druggists. Undoubtedly the year 1903 has demonstrated that the power of the qualified chemist, if circumscribed, is a potent force where-
ever exercised. The year is notable in the annals

of pharmacy on account of the consolidation which has taken place in respect to the regeneration of the craft. When the Legislature in 1868 decreed that thenceforth dispensing and retailing of poisons should be done solely by persons who had proved their fitness to be entrusted with this onerous duty, a principle was recognised which has since become universal in the British Empire. But it received a stunning blow in 1881, when the House of Lords in its judicial capacity declared that the Legislature did not mean "persons" to include corporate bodies. Twenty years of controversy in the drug-trade ensued—controversy chiefly of the unprofitable character which accompanies discussion as to whether the existence of that which is shall be recognised. It will be remembered that in 1902 the Pharmaceutical Council drafted a Bill to amend the Pharmacy Acts, which included a clause dealing with limited companies trading as chemists and druggists, and it went forward to Parliament with the half-hearted support of its parents respecting this clause. In February of the present year the Privy Council's Committee, which had been inquiring about the amendment of the Poisons Schedule, submitted a report which recommended *inter alia* abrogation of the principle of the 1868 Act, so that poisons to be used for agricultural, horticultural, and sanitary purposes might be sold under certain conditions by persons not qualified under the Act. This report was based on incomplete evidence, and was strongly dissented from by Mr. Walter Hills, the representative of pharmacists on the Committee. It has been instrumental chiefly in demonstrating to qualified chemists that their position is not indisputable; consequently when, on March 26, the Pharmacy Bill of the year before was introduced by Mr. Lough with a strong and non-party backing, the trade became united in determination to assert the rights to which every qualified member of it is entitled through having met the State's requirements as to education and examination. The Bill was met with strong opposition on behalf of the companies, half-a-dozen independent members having placed motions on the papers of the House of Commons which meant its rejection, and before the Session finished some of the backers of the Bill were won over to the company view of the matter. The opposition has but served to cement the qualified ranks, and to-day the company clause, originally introduced into the Bill to please a section of the Pharmaceutical Council, and with the assurance that it would not pass, has become the essential principle of the measure, and the Council is now as united as the trade in determination to have the clause, or something like it, enacted by Parliament. Everything else in the Bill has become subsidiary to this determination, and when the Bill is again introduced to the notice of our Parliamentary representatives we shall have the opportunity of telling them that the company clause has already been placed on the Statute Rolls of the realm by the Orange River Colony. We consider that this survey justifies our

belief that the Parliamentary Session of 1903 marked an advance in legislative effort, and if the drug-trade stick to the principle involved they will realise long-delayed expectations.

Dealing as we are with the great events of the year rather than the multitude of occurrences which are mere punctuation in the historical record, we naturally select the High Court decisions under the Medicine-stamp Acts as epoch-making features of 1903. They deal with a matter which, more than anything else, helps the open-minded to realise that the drug-trade of Great Britain is not confined to the fifteen thousand odd persons on the register (less than two-thirds of whom are in business on their own account), for licences are granted in respect to nearly 37,000 premises in which the making and dealing in stamped medicines are carried on. The laws relating to this business are almost ancient in origin, and apply solely to Great Britain. They are revenue laws of the simplest nature as regards collection of the revenue, but of the most complicated nature in administration. It says much for the correct manner in which the Revenue authorities have administered the laws that their views have been brought under revision of the High Courts of Justice four times only in the course of 120 years, and two of these have been in the closing year. In 1877-78 the Lamplough's saline case settled that the repeal of an item in the general charge of duty under the 1812 Act was equivalent to exemption of the articles from duty. This was contrary to the official view. In 1894 the High Court in *Smith v. Mason* upheld the Board of Inland Revenue's contention as to what are entire drugs, and that companies are not chemists in the sense of the 1812 exemption clause, which frees entire drugs from stamp-duty and enables chemists to sell them without a vendor's licence. This case settled other points of minor administrative importance. In 1903 we have had two cases as important as those of 1877 and 1894, and more important in respect to the fact that they have completely altered the manner of administering the law enacted in 1785. The cases are still recent and fresh in the minds of our readers. *Ransom v. Sanguinetti* was a case heard in 1902 wherein the Brentford Magistrates did not consider that a commendatory sentence on a label common to certain gum-pastilles was a recommendation when the word "influenza" also appeared on the label. By the time the case came before the Divisional Court of King's Bench on March 24 it had resolved itself substantially into a declaration that a title such as "Influenza-pastilles" carries with it liability to duty. The Court's reversal of the Magistrate's decision has come to this in effect, and on June 6 we were able to announce that the Board of Inland Revenue would thenceforth regard ailment-names on medicines as a reason for stamping the medicines. Up to that time the Board had permitted the use of such names as a concession. The disturbance of established conditions of trade involved by this change was scarcely realised at first, partly owing to the fact that the same Court heard also, on March 26, the appeal on behalf of the Revenue authorities against the decision by Mr. Dickinson, a metropolitan magistrate, which held that it was not an offence for a qualified chemist to recommend ammoniated tincture of quinine for human ailments and sell it unstamped with such recommendation, as he was privileged to that extent by a special exemption in the schedule to the 1812 Act. Judgment in the appeal (*Farmer v. Glyn-Jones*, heard by the Lord Chief Justice Mr. Justice Channell, and Mr. Justice Wills) was reserved until April 24, when it was given sustaining Mr. Dickinson's decision. The effect of this was to bring into force for the

first time, as far as we have been able to trace, an exemption to apothecaries, surgeons, chemists, and druggists, granted to them in 1785 when the Act of that year extended the charge of duty from patented medicines and medicines sold by unqualified persons to proprietary medicines, nostrums, and some others, as well as patented medicines. Apothecaries, surgeons, chemists, and druggists were then enabled to sell without stamp-duty, even though they recommended them, "known, admitted, and approved" medicines. This probably meant preparations that were official then or which were commonly known to the trade and the public as non-secret remedies. This was the first of a multitude of problems that the Board of Inland Revenue in their discretion had to solve. Early in May they intimated that they would regard as coming within the exemption:

- (1) Medicines the formulæ of which were stated on the labels.
- (2) Medicines prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia, the fact being stated on the label.

This declaration was accompanied by the proviso that the preparations had not been recommended by the "owner, proprietor, maker, compounder, original or first vendor." Although this was a very marked advance upon the uncertainty which faced exempted persons after the High Court decision, the Board have since given greater elasticity to the two statements, the principal ingredients being allowed on the label instead of the formula, and well-known books of reference being added to the British Pharmacopœia. A statement of the leading events since the end of May will best show the evolution to the present position:

June 6.—The Board intimated that ailment-names would, under *Ransom v. Sanguinetti*, be considered dutiable, qualified chemists being exempt on the above-stated conditions.

June 20.—We suggested to the Board that the time until January 1, 1904, should be allowed to work off old labels, and they fixed on September 30, 1903.

July 4.—We pointed out that by *Smith v. Mason (Limited)* companies do not benefit by Exemption 3, and again suggested January 1, 1904, for working off old labels.

July 11.—The Board informed us that they consented to extend the time to December 31, 1903.

July 25.—The Board recognised *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* as a well-known book of reference, and we accordingly arranged to publish therein chemists' formulas for known, admitted, and approved remedies of a non-proprietary character ("*Pharmaceutical Formulas*") was also taken into consideration, but by inadvertence the Board's decision to the same effect was not communicated to us at the time).

August 1.—We published a circular from the Board to its officers on the subject, which stated that companies are not exempt, and that organ-named medicines are liable.

August 22.—The Board intimated that they would not require a full disclosure of the ingredients on the label; also that in future they would decline to advise chemists whether or not the terms of a particular label are such as to bring the medicine within the scope of the exemption.

October 17.—The Board informed us that formulæ numbers would not be required on labels.

October 24.—We were enabled to state that the Board would not permit the supply unstamped of known, admitted, and approved remedies, with recommending labels on them, by unqualified or company-wholesalers.

October 30.—Names of organs or parts of the body declared not to be dutiable. We pointed out that the terms of the Board's letter did not cover all titles relating to organs or parts of the body, and addressed the Board on the matter.

November 10.—An Association, acting on behalf of herbalists and other unqualified persons, petitioned the Board to extend the time of incidence *re* ailment-names to March 31, 1904. (It was this body which secured exemption of organ-names.)

November 28.—The Board accepted our suggestion that adjectival as well as substantival forms of names of organs of the body would not be dutiable, and made the whole matter much clearer. The Board also informed us that formulæ-numbers would be required on ailment-name labels.

December 2.—The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society decided to appoint a deputation to call upon the Board of Inland Revenue respecting the administration of the Medicine-stamp Acts. (On July 16 the General Purposes Committee, which is the whole Council, would not agree to a motion to the same effect brought forward by Mr. Wootton.)

December 3.—A deputation representing the Grocers' Federation was received at Somerset House and asked that time should be extended to March 31, 1904.

December 11.—The Board decided to extend the time to March 31, 1904.

December 12.—We published a decision by the Board to the effect that medicated lozenges (such as cough-lozenges) might be supplied unstamped by wholesalers to retailers in not less than 4-lb. boxes, this being considered "bulk."

December 21.—The Pharmaceutical Council's deputation visited Somerset House.

December 22.—A deputation representing manufacturers of proprietary articles visited Somerset House in respect to dispensing of dutiable medicines.

From the foregoing it may be deduced that the following points have come out with some clearness from what those who have not followed the subject sufficiently closely regard as a "tangle":

(1) Medicines held out in respect to organs or parts of the human body are no longer dutiable.

(2) Medicines named according to ailments of the human body are dutiable except when sold by qualified chemists and other qualified persons mentioned in Exemption 3.

(3) Qualified chemists may recommend and sell without stamp-duty known, admitted, and approved remedies.

These three points are the outcome of the year's agitation, and a fourth remains for settlement—viz., whether manufacturers or wholesalers may supply qualified chemists with known, admitted, and approved remedies ready put up for retailing to the public and unstamped. This appeared to be closed with a letter, published last month, but, as is stated elsewhere in this issue, the whole matter was discussed between representatives of the Board and the Editor of this journal with Mr. J. C. Umney, and again by the Pharmaceutical Council's deputation, with the result that it is to be reconsidered by the Board as a part of a wider scheme. That, we venture to predict, will be as to whether Exemption 3 may not be extended to all who may legally trade as "chemists," and thus including companies. This is a consideration we never contemplated, for *Smith v. Mason* clearly demonstrated that limited companies are outside the special exemptions mentioned in the 1812 Act. We are therefore forced to the conclusion that the year is closing with the promise of all that Mr. Glyn-Jones gained for qualified chemists being negated, so that the High Court cases may resolve themselves in a mere shuffling of the cards, the benefit of the cut remaining into the hands of the dealers—to wit, the Board of Inland Revenue. Whatever advantage this may give, we cannot close this rapid record without acknowledging the great courtesy of the Board and their officers during a very trying time. It has been our duty to submit to them many difficulties and questions on behalf of our subscribers, and in every instance they have been fully considered and advice given. We do not anticipate that such a condition of affairs will recur, since matters have settled down, and the Pharmaceutical Council, as a chartered and statutory body, has at the eleventh hour stepped in and established cordial relations which should be of benefit to the whole trade if the results are disseminated in the impartial manner which has characterised the Board of Inland Revenue's work.

In the administration of pharmacy law there has been little during the past year of unusual

note. In June Mr. S. R. Atkins, who had previously served the Society in Great Britain well as Councillor, Vice-President, and Treasurer, succeeded Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme as President of the Society. In November Mr. Johnstone Montgomery, of Belfast, was appointed President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Both Societies have been a trifle quiet in respect to infringements of the Pharmacy Acts, and in consequence arrears are accumulating, especially in Ireland, which may be hard to wipe off. The

agitation in regard to free trade in agricultural poisons continues, but is not growing in seriousness. The British Pharmaceutical Conference's meeting in Bristol, under the presidency of Mr. T. H. W. Idris, was a success in sociality and accomplished work; and the sixty or seventy chemists' associations in Great Britain maintain local interest in trade topics, those which have specially engaged their attention during the year being co-operative buying and territorial representation on the Pharmaceutical Council. We shall not venture to deal now with technical work, but we feel justified in saying that British work in pharmaceutical research compares most favourably at the present moment with that of any other country.

The country's business during 1903 has been much disturbed, especially in retail sections, by abnormally rainy weather. Export trade has been better in practically all departments, but the feeling that certain foreign countries are progressing more than we are, and that we are losing business in foreign markets which are heavily protected, impelled the Cabinet to initiate a departmental inquiry on the subject. In the result the Prime Minister declared for national consideration of the desirability of modifying our principle of free trade, whereupon the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other members of the Government resigned as a protest against any movement towards protection, while Mr. Joseph Chamberlain also threw up office in order to devote his whole time to promote his protective policy. All this has disturbed trade somewhat, and has doubtless affected the drug and chemical trades also. At all events, the year has not been a good one for those who depend for their livelihood upon the legitimate business of buying and selling Mincing Lane produce. The abnormally high prices which have prevailed for several leading staples have restricted consumption to the lowest possible requirements, and the fiscal policy and bad weather have had a similar effect, the latter especially curtailing the consumption of essential oils and effervescing preparations.

The article that has attracted most attention in Mincing Lane is shellac, a stringent situation having been brought about by increasingly large demand and very small supplies. In May the true situation became known, and from that time prices began to steadily advance. The increased consumption is due to many new industries (in which shellac plays an important part) having sprung up, and as the source of supply is not increasing it will be many months before prices decline to their former level, if ever they should. The failure of the Norwegian cod-fisheries has created an unprecedented situation in cod-liver oil, and it would be difficult to find a parallel in the history of a drug of such wide popularity. Prices have risen beyond all records. Norway's failure has been taken advantage of by Newfoundland, the Colony having had a fair share of the business this year, so much so that a leading Norwegian refiner has imported and "refined" Newfoundland oil. The scarcity and high price of genuine pure oil have naturally led to a considerable increase in adulteration.

Among alkaloids and fine chemicals the general trend of prices has been downwards, owing to keen competition and the advent of new makers. The practical closing of the Indian and Chinese markets has brought about lower prices for cocaine and morphine, and the break-up of the phenacetin convention in January resulted in reduced prices. Caffeine, codeia, lithia, menthol, salicylates, and sulphonal are all lower than they were at the beginning of the year. Iodides have not altered "officially," but the ring has had to meet increased competition from Japan, the United States, and European makers. Quinine has remained in the back-ground, and at no time has the market been excited. The

makers' prices have fluctuated within exceptionally narrow limits, and while Java continues to increase her shipments of bark higher prices cannot be anticipated. Java quinine does not appear to find a ready market, and the auctions at Java are only of secondary interest. The monthly shipments are as keenly watched as ever, but the fear that they will prove large has deterred active speculation. In crude camphor the chief event has been the acquisition of the Japanese product by the Government of Japan, which monopoly came into force on October 1. The exploitation of this monopoly has been granted to the proprietors of the Formos an monopoly, who have recently withdrawn all offers of crude camphor. It is well known that the original monopoly was a failure, owing to the remarkable increase in the production of Japan stimulated by the high prices demanded by the monopoly. Now that the proprietors have the ball at their feet, they no doubt intend to recoup themselves for the losses they have incurred. The market for camphor is but limited, and any serious increase in the price of crude—which is not improbable—is likely to prove a menace to the output. The monopoly is waiting until all the second-hand parcels of Japanese crude camphor have been absorbed before dictating their own terms.

In crude drugs cascara sagrada has probably been more talked about than any other, the rise in prices having been phenomenal. It may be accounted for by the fact that the low prices which have prevailed for many years and the changing labour-conditions have prevented gatherers from paying attention to the article, and the supply has been decreasing year by year. Matters reached a climax in September, but subsequently an easier tendency prevailed. All American indigenous drugs have been scarce and dear this year, including senega, golden seal, podophyllum, bayberry, Canada balsam, and others. A feature of the ipecac. market has been the steadily increasing supply of East Indian native-picked root of good alkaloidal content, which has tended to keep down values of Matto Grosso and Minas; there have been no alterations of a sensational character. Cartagena still keeps in favour, especially for the United States.

Among the essential oils first place must be given to peppermint oil. It has again been a year of comparative high values, although there has been nothing like the excitement that occurred in 1902. The reports concerning the American and Japanese crops have been more conflicting than usual, and with the manipulation of the markets by speculators the natural course has been diverted, thus making it more of a puzzle than ever to the consumer. Never in the history of peppermint oil has so much adulterated stuff been put on the market, and even some of the well-known brands have been involved. Much trouble has therefore arisen, arbitrations have been frequent, and, greatly to the disappointment of many people, a lawsuit was only prevented at the last moment by the refusal of a shipper of cleverly sophisticated oil to "face the music." The market for oil of lemon has this year touched the lowest prices on record, owing to over-production in Sicily, and the same may be said of otto of rose, the distillation of which has exceeded the most sanguine estimates, being over two hundred thousand ounces. Otto has never been so cheap, consequently purchasers have laid in large stocks, and speculators have bought heavily on the ground that many rose-cultivators have given up owing to unremunerative prices. Sandalwood oil has been "cut" more than ever this year, but with dearer prices paid at the auctions of sandalwood in India last month, there has been a decided advance. The "spike" disease, about which we were the first to call attention in

this country, is still being investigated by the Indian Government. As we anticipated last year better prices have prevailed for citronella oil, owing to a decrease in the Ceylon exports. The business has received a serious check by the wholesale adulteration, but there are now signs that the Ceylon Government is about to take measures to remedy the evil. The speculation in cloves has driven up the price of the oil by over 1s. 6d. per lb. since January, and has also helped to establish an advance in vanillin.

We should like to say that the year closes with better prospects all round, but the evidence of that is hard to find; indeed, if the fiscal agitation do nothing else than call attention to the proverbial tendency of John Bull to ignore what his competitors do, it will be of benefit to British trade.

Ionone.

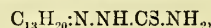
A VERY important contribution to the chemistry of ionone and its derivatives by Dr. Philippe Chuit appeared in a recent issue of the *Revue Générale de Chimie*. It is pointed out that the original ionone introduced to commerce in 1893 by Tiemann was a more or less indefinite mixture of the alpha and beta varieties, and not a single substance, and that the violettone placed on the market in 1897 by Chuit, Naef & Co. was chiefly beta-ionone containing but little alpha-ionone. The difference was due to the preparation of violettone by isomerising the pseudo-ionone with cold strong sulphuric acid in place of hot dilute acid. The later developments were mainly concerned in the separation of the two ionones. Tiemann in 1898 patented a method for separating the ionones, depending on the crystallisation of the hydrosulphonic-acid compounds. Chuit now describes a method effecting a perfect and easy separation, enabling alpha- and beta-ionones to be isolated in absolute purity—a matter of some importance, since their odour is claimed to be very different. He also shows that whereas cold strong sulphuric acid produces a mixture rich in beta-ionone, weaker acids, such as hydrochloric and phosphoric, at low temperatures, produce mixtures rich in alpha-ionone.

He shows, too, that a ready isomerisation of the derivative of pseudionone takes place in the same way as that of the parent substance. The oxime of pseudionone, for example, is readily isomerised, and yields the oxime of the alpha or beta variety according to the conditions of the isomerisation. The method adopted for a complete hydrosulphonic separation of the isomers depends on the fact that the hydrosulphonic compound of alpha-ionone is, as a sodium salt, insoluble in solutions of common salt. A solution containing the isomers as their sodium hydrosulphonates is saturated with common salt, the liquid being kept warm, when a slow crystallisation of the alpha-compound takes place in beautiful white plates. The beta-compound remains dissolved, unless present in excess, when it rises as an oil to the surface of the liquid. The alpha-compound can be recrystallised and decomposed by alkalis, when absolutely pure alpha-ionone is obtained. The perfume is described as different from, and of a far finer nature than, that of ordinary commercial ionone. It appears, as is usual with many of the hydrosulphonic-acid compounds, that several varieties of the salt exist. The one just described is the unstable sodium hydrosulphonate of alpha-ionone, $C_{13}H_{21}O.SO_3Na + \frac{1}{2}H_2O$. The other compounds are of the so-called "intermediate" and the "stable" acid. Well-defined semicarbazone, oxime, and phenylhydrazone of this salt have been prepared. A similar series of bodies in which beta-ionone forms the basis are also described.

Passing on to the properties of pure alpha-ionone and beta-ionone, the author summarises them as follows:

— —	Alpha-ionone	Beta ionone
Colour	None	None
Sp. gr. at 15° C.	0.9338	0.9488
Sp. gr. at 20° C.	0.9301	0.9442
Refractive index	1.50048 (16.5° C.)	1.52070 (16.8° C.)
Refractive index	1.50001 (17.2° C.)	1.52008 (17.5° C.)
Boiling-point at 10 mm. ...	—	131.1° C.
Boiling-point at 11 mm. ...	—	133.6° C.
Boiling-point at 11½ mm. ...	127.1° C.	—
Boiling-point at 12 mm. ...	127.6° C.	134.6° C.
Boiling-point at 13 mm. ...	131.1° C.	138.8° C.
Boiling-point at 14 mm. ...	131.8° C.	137.9° C.
Boiling-point at 16 mm. ...	134.3° C.	140.4° C.

The thiosemicarbazone of alpha-ionone,



melts at 121° C., that of beta-ionone at 158° C. The difference of odour between the two ionones when quite pure is sufficiently great for anyone with even an untrained nose not to be deceived. On smelling the oils themselves, alpha-ionone clearly possesses a sweeter and more penetrating odour, more flowery, and recalling orris much more than beta-ionone; but if a drop is allowed to evaporate on paper, it is quickly seen that the perfume of beta-ionone is equally powerful and, in Dr. Chuit's opinion, reproduces the true odour of the violet flower more perfectly.

Technical Chemists and Duty-free Alcohol.

The trend of the speeches at the annual dinner of the Institute of Chemistry was quite in an industrial direction. The most interesting features of Mr. Howard's admirable speech as President were the claim of the qualified scientific chemist to be regarded as a professional man and the recent movement to give a professional status to the chief works or technical chemists. The proposal to give upon examination some certificate of proficiency in technical or applied chemistry was supported by Sir Wm. Ramsay, who, while somewhat contemptuous as respects examinations as a true test of fitness, did extol the value of the German Ph.D., who in due course becomes a loveless chemist in the scientific sense. Sir William described the career of that product of the German educational system in glowing colours, referring to his patience in well doing at 100% a year for three years (a rather high figure for Germany), then of his progression to a position of responsibility suited to his scientific and now tried attainment at, say, 250% a year for three more years, and finally to a wage and a bonus up to possibly 1,500% to 2,500% a year after another three to five years. May we ask how many reach this altitude? We venture to say that, short of the highest, the lot of the fairly competent British chemist is at least equal to that of his German *confrère*. The idea has taken fast hold of the British critic's mind that British scientific training cannot and does not turn out men who attain to such positions. The question is not whether British chemical and electrical manufacturers employ as many trained men as they ought or as our German competitors. If they valued scientific attainments as they should many more would be employed. In the majority of cases the highly paid assistant is more than a scientific chemist—he is an organiser, perhaps a chemist-engineer, but, above all, a business-man. So are the highly paid chemists in German chemical-factories. British sugar, explosives, alkali, &c., concerns pay salaries of an enviable amount, and more than those that prevail in similar concerns abroad. Nowhere on the Continent are larger salaries paid to leading

men who were first humble chemists and are now responsible managers. It is a sign of the times that at a dinner of the professional chemistry body of this country chemical industry alone almost was the theme of the evening. Mr. Haldane caught on to Mr. Howard's remarks about duty-free alcohol for manufacturing purposes, and more than hinted that the "pegging-away" policy now adopted by those whose hobby it is will be ultimately crowned with real success. We know that other influential personages present were fully alive to the importance of the matter to British chemical industry, and were strongly of opinion that the law should be altered, if need be, to meet the requirements of the case.

The New Test for Arsenic.

It is a trite saying that the great thing for an inventor to know is what to invent. There is not so much merit in the mere act of invention as there is in its utility. During the poisoned-beer scare some time ago, and when prominence was given to the difficulties that present themselves in connection with the application of Marsh's test—namely, the difficulty of obtaining pure reagents and their frequent "insensitivity" when obtained—it occurred to Mr. S. R. Trotman, the city analyst of Nottingham, that if he could devise an apparatus to apply a stream of hydrogen obtained electrolytically to the purpose every difficulty would vanish. Mr. Trotman accordingly constructed an apparatus consisting of a double cell, made by covering the end of an incandescent (gas) lamp glass with parchment, the other end being fitted with a rubber bung, through which pass a delivery-tube with a drying-tube attached, a thistle funnel with tap, and a glass tube filled with mercury, ending in an electrode of platinum foil. This inner cell stands in a glass jar, and both inner and outer cells contain sulphuric acid. A few drops of zinc-sulphate solution are added to the contents of the inner cell to help the subsequent evolution of the arseniuretted hydrogen. A suitable electric current is then passed through the cell so that the hydrogen is liberated in the inner vessel and the oxygen in the outer one. After the air is expelled, the solution to be tested for arsenic is passed through the funnel, and the test proceeded with in the well-known way. To obtain the current the town supply can be tapped, or it may be derived from a secondary battery. The cost of the test with electricity at 5d. a unit is about 4d., which, taking into account the waste of materials and the time spent in purifying, compares favourably with the cost of the ordinary Marsh test. Mr. Trotman explained at the last meeting of the Nottingham Section of the Society of Chemical Industry that he had submitted his method of testing to the Committee on Arsenic in Brewing-materials, and that they have practically adopted it in the recently published report. He considers that due credit has not been given to him, but we are not so much concerned in this discussion as in the fact that the process appears to be a perfect one, as the apparatus will detect the thousandth part of a milligram of arsenic with ease and certainty, according to its author.

"Futures,"

A decision of considerable importance to Mincing Lane brokers who do business in "futures" was given by Mr. Justice Darling, in the King's Bench Division, last Saturday, in the case of Price, Hickman & Co. v. Schiller, reported under Trade Law, page 1057. According to the evidence, the plaintiffs, who are brokers, purchased on commission cotton and sugar for delivery, on behalf of the defendant, a violin-maker, who, when called upon for payment, repudiated his purchases and pleaded the Gaming Act. The Judge eventually decided in his favour, on the grounds that the transactions were merely gaming transactions in differences on prices. It was stated on behalf of the plaintiffs that, bad delivery been asked for, they would

have been prepared to deliver. The matter is not likely to rest here, and in all probability the decision will be appealed against. The question becomes serious when one considers the thousands of cases of shellac and bales of cloves that have been sold this year for future delivery. As a rule, *bona-fide* speculators in Mincing Lane do not repudiate their contracts when the markets go against them, knowing that their business interests and reputations would suffer. In the present instance the futility of dealing with outsiders who know nothing whatever of the trade is apparent; and it may probably teach a useful lesson to brokers to confine their transactions to those who assemble in the Commercial Sale-rooms with the avowed object of speculating in "futures." They know the risk undertaken, and when any dispute occurs there is always arbitration to fall back upon. In transactions of this character it is well understood that much depends on the stability and financial standing of the buyer, to see that no hitch occurs when settlements are made. For the benefit of those who do not know we may state that the principal purpose of the Clearing-house is to facilitate such transactions by adjusting "differences" on re-sales, the documents in each instance being passed on to the last buyer. It is always an understood thing that the buyer may have delivery of the goods, but of course he resells before the time for delivery comes, and the ball goes on rolling. Those who are opposed to the business in "futures" argue, and rightly, that every purchase and sale for future delivery is not consummated or settled by the actual delivery of the goods on the contract at maturity, and this is where the gambling element comes in. Delivery on "future" contracts is not only regarded as unnecessary, but is impossible in many cases. For instance, half-a-dozen brokers may be in the same position on one transaction—that is, they must settle without actual delivery, as every one of them has bought and sold, and each is waiting for the party he has bought from to deliver. This is where matters become involved and contracts defaulted by reason of their waiting for an impossible delivery.

Our "Diary" Competition.

EACH copy of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1904 contains a coupon entitling the subscriber who receives it, or any assistant, apprentice, or member of his family, to compete for ten guineas in prizes. Of this sum, at least eight guineas will be awarded to those who send in on postcard B (which is part of the coupon) the best replies to the subjoined questions:

1. Which is the best advertisement in the DIARY?
2. Which is the most artistic page in the DIARY?
3. Which is the cleverest business-producing advertisement?
4. Which are the most artistic perfumes or toilet-articles?
5. What ailment-name preparation advertised do you sell most of?
6. Vote for the "protected" article you like best?

Replies should be sent in by December 31.

We asked that postcard A be used for a quotation, comment, or suggestion on any part of the contents of the DIARY, and we are also receiving these up to December 31. We subjoin some that have come to hand:

THE ENTIRE DIARY.—"Infinite riches in a little room." (Marlowe.)

MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS (289-293).—"There is such a choice of difficulties, that I am myself at a loss how to determine." Miss EVA E. HARDWICKE, Bury St. Edmund's.

The chemist who attentively reads his C. & D. week by week, and finishes up the year with the DIARY, will not have to growl about bad trade and being behind the times.—G. W. WIDDOWSON, Burgess Hill.

Chemists generally ought to be very grateful for your insertion of pages 531 to 562A, and the admirable and concise way in which you have brought together the "known, admitted, and approved."—W. F. SHIRTCLIFFE, Sheffield.

Stamped-medicine Notes.

The Pharmaceutical Deputation.

THE deputation appointed by the Pharmaceutical Council at its last meeting to wait upon the Board of Inland Revenue was received at Somerset House on Monday, December 21, by the Board's representatives. The deputation consisted of Mr. S. R. Atkins (President of the Society), Mr. C. B. Allen (Vice-President), and Mr. Michael Carteighe. They were accompanied by Mr. Bremridge, the Secretary. We were officially informed last week that representatives of the Press would not accompany the deputation, and since then it has been decided that no communication is to be made to any of the journals. The subjoined statement is not "official."

Probably the most interesting subject discussed was that of the position of wholesalers under Exemption 3. In regard to this matter Mr. John C. Umney (representing wholesale interests) and the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST on November 23 had an interview with Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Percy Thompson (representing the Board), when they submitted the following statements:

First.—It was suggested that when an unquestionably exempted medicine—*e.g.*, Dr. Gregory's powder, B.P.—is ordered by an exempted person from a wholesale firm to be packed in bottles and labelled by the packers with a label bearing a recommendation and the name and address of the exempted person, by whom it is to be sold to the public, the packers are performing for the exempted person a duty which he is entitled to delegate to any employé, so that the wholesale firm stand in the position of the employé.

Second.—In regard to the Board's ruling that if the wholesale firm are not exempted persons they, as the first sellers of the article bearing a dutiable label, must stamp it, it was suggested that in the case of exempted articles prepared in accordance with the exempted person's order and labelled with the exempted person's name and address, the article is not held out or recommended to the public by the wholesale firm. The recommendation is an instruction by the exempted person to his agent (the wholesale house), and as the article is one of the kind that the public are entitled to obtain free of duty from an exempted person, the revenue would not suffer by a concession embodying the spirit of the law.

Third.—It was pointed out to the visitors that if an exempted person receive such articles unstamped from a non-exempted wholesale firm, it is his duty, under a penalty of 20*l.*, to return them, or to advise the Commissioners of the fact. To this the visitors replied that the terms of the exemption appear to exonerate the receiver of the articles from this obligation, because they are in essence to him exempted medicines, which he is entitled to keep ready for sale and to sell unstamped.

It was further suggested that in the judgment given in *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones* such a condition as that outlined appears to be contemplated as coming within the exemption, because there was a disjunction and not conjunction between making up and selling. The judgment said in effect:

If the article is not secret, &c., "and if it is made up or sold by a duly qualified person, it is exempt from duty."

If the right of the registered chemist to purchase an exempted article ready-made be admitted, there is reason for regarding the article as being exempt from the beginning. The case being one of affixing a label to a known, admitted, and approved remedy, it was suggested that the wholesale firm are not "the owners, proprietors, makers, compounders, original or first vendors," so that the article is not taken out of the exemption by the wholesale firm affixing a label bearing the registered chemist's recommendation and his name and address.

The subject was again brought forward by the Pharmaceutical deputation on Monday, and led to an interesting conversation. It appears that although a very strict silence has been preserved by limited companies, the Army and Navy Stores, and similar bodies in respect to this matter, they have by no means been inactive. They argue that the trade conditions when the exemption was framed were so different from what they are now that it cannot be expected that Parliament at the present time would endorse the apprenticeship provision in the exemption, but would modify it so that when the businesses of corporate bodies are under the direct personal supervision of qualified chemists, the provisions of the statute should apply as if the businesses were owned by the managers. This point was introduced and discussed during the conference on Monday, and as a result it is probable that the privileges of Exemption 3 will be extended

to all who trade as chemists and druggists, wholesale or retail. The deputation were able to supply the Board's representatives with valuable information in regard to the source of the bulk of the revenue from medicine stamp-duty, showing that it should not suffer from a broad-minded application of the principle established by the *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones* decision. On the whole the result of the deputation may be considered satisfactory, in so far as it has established friendly relations between the Board and the Society. From another source we learn that the deputation "gave the show away," and although we feel that the clear definition of the exemption in the *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones* judgment may not be maintained, the fact has to be recognised that the deputation had to face the inevitable.

Label-marking.

A correspondent writes:

A chemist near Glasgow recently submitted to Somerset House a "malt-and-oil" label containing the sentence, "useful in wasting diseases." He received a reply that the label was "liable." If "quinine-and-iron tonic" (when recommended) is exempt, surely "malt and cod-liver oil" is also, under the same ruling. Is not "malt and cod-liver oil" an "adequate indication of the formula," and exempt if sold by a duly qualified chemist and druggist?

This difficulty recurs so frequently that once again we print the Board's statement, made to us in a letter dated August 15:

In view of the impossibility of determining from an inspection of a label whether the ingredients of the medicine to which it relates are thereby adequately disclosed, the Board must in future decline to advise chemists whether or not the terms of a particular label are such as to bring the medicine within the scope of the exemption.

This means, in brief, that the Board's officers are instructed to mark labels "liable" or "not liable" according to the terms of the label. It is for chemists themselves or their advisers (amongst whom the *C. & D.* is included) to determine whether their labels for known, admitted, and approved remedies conform to the Board's stipulation as to disclosure. We do not think the Board would split a hair over "malt and oil." It should really be described as "extract of malt and cod-liver oil," and if so qualified chemists may recommend it as they like without stamp-duty.

The Lozenge-concession.

We have had a number of inquiries respecting the exact terms implied in the letter from the Board to the Confectioners' Alliance respecting the sale in bulk and unstamped of dutiable lozenges. It is supposed in some quarters that the concession applies to gingerbread worm-cakes, cough-mixtures, and so on. The letter, which the Alliance addressed to the Board was as follows:

E. E. Stoodley, Esq.,
Secretary of the Inland Revenue,
Somerset House.

SIR,—You have been in receipt of several communications from individual firms of confectioners as regards the liability to medicine stamp-duty on cough-lozenges and other similar goods. As there is still a little doubt on the question in the minds of some members of the Alliance, I have to ask you to send me a letter in reply to the following question: If such lozenges as have been submitted to you are sold in 4-lb. boxes by the manufacturer to the retailer, and distributed by him to the public in paper bags, is there any liability to duty either by the manufacturer or by the retailer? If so, would you kindly specify to what extent?

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. JUST BOYD.

To this the Board replied in the affirmative, as reported in our issue of December 12, with the proviso that the retailer must not put up the lozenges in any enclosure except a screw of paper unless he stamps them. In consequence of inquiries addressed to us we put the following questions to the Board on December 14:

(1) Does the concession extend to wholesale vendors who receive 4-lb. boxes of cough-lozenges from manufacturers, and sell them as received to retailers?

(2) Will the concession be extended to other medicines in bulk, such as cough-mixtures and cough-pills, labelled as such, or with Latin labels, supplied by manufacturers or wholesalers to retailers?

To this we have received the following reply :

28378. S. Inland Revenue,
1903. Somerset House,
Stamps. London, W.C.,
21st December, 1903.

SIR,—In reply to your letter dated the 14th inst. I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that the exemption from medicine stamp-duty conceded in favour of lozenges sold in bulk would extend to a sale made by a wholesale vendor to a retailer, provided that the lozenges were sold as received.

As regards the second question which you ask, the Board do not clearly understand the precise circumstances contemplated, and they therefore hesitate to give any general answer. They will be prepared to consider any specific facts which may be submitted to them on this point.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
E. E. STODLEY,
Secretary.

The Editor,
THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

The circumstances referred to in the second question are those in which medicines are supplied by manufacturers or wholesalers to retailers in bulk packages, such as are not sold to the public by retailers. The following are examples :

ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—Twelve gross in a lever-topped tin, labelled "Antibilious Pills" or "Pil. antibil.," and with or without a reference-number or the name of the manufacturer or wholesaler.

DIARRHŒA-MIXTURE supplied in quantities of 2 pints or more in wholesaler's ordinary bottles, and labelled with the name of the article.

ECZEMA-SALVE supplied in tie over earthenware jars of 1 lb. or more, and labelled with the name of the article.

These are merely examples of classes. Our readers know how numerous are the preparations which are dealt with in this way by the trade, and can, in consequence, appreciate the hesitation of the Board in prescribing a general rule. In order to assist in the matter, we shall be glad if wholesalers and manufacturers will send to us (carriage paid) specimen packages (*without contents*) labelled and finished off as they are in the habit of doing. *Each package must represent a bulk quantity such as the retailer obtains for the purpose of repacking for sale to the public.*

Parcels should be addressed "The Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C."

The following is suggested by Mr. J. S. Sykes, chemist, Erith and Plumstead, as good for showing in chemists' windows :

"PUBLIC NOTICE.

On and after March 31, 1904, all our minor

'AILMENT-NAMED' EVERYDAY DOMESTIC PREPARATIONS will bear on them a notice that each is a known and admitted preparation. The following impress will be on all present-in-use labels, wrappers, and circulars :

PHARMACEUTICAL
FORMULAS.

This is to show that a preparation bearing the above wording is recognised by his Majesty's Board of Inland Revenue as being a medicament of tried and admitted value.

As soon as our present stock of labels is exhausted the above wording will appear as part of the label."

The objection to this is the same as that sometimes urged against the medicine-stamp—viz., that it implies Government guarantee. All the Board of Inland Revenue do is to accept publication of formulas as *prima-facie* evidence that medicines prepared according to the formulas are subject to exemption from stamp-duty. The Board do not express any opinion upon the value of medicines.

"THE BACK-CURE" is a title which has been submitted to us this week, and we have marked the label "Liable," as coming within the Board's amplified statement respecting the use of ailment-names.

AUSTRIAN OLIVE OIL.—H.M. Consul at Trieste reports that the production of olive oil in Dalmatia and Istria shows a sensible diminution. During the last three years an annual average of 5,362 tons was produced, as against an annual average of 10,194 tons produced during the nine preceding years. The oil is produced in the proportion of four-fifths by Dalmatia, and one-fifth by Istria.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

What is Brandy?—An appeal was heard by the Lord Justice Clerk, Lord Trayner, and Lord Moncreiff in the Justiciary Appeal Court, Edinburgh, on December 19, regarding the quality of brandy. The medical officer of health for Lanarkshire prosecuted John M. Wilson and Archibald McPhee, refreshment-contractors, Glasgow, for having sold to an inspector under the Food and Drugs Act at the Cambuslang Cattle Show for brandy a liquor which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded in that at least 65 per cent. of the spirit was not derived from grapes. The case was tried before Sheriff-Substitute Thomson, at Hamilton, and the charge was found proved, the accused being fined 17. each, with the alternative of ten days' imprisonment. The Sheriff held that the analysis of various brands of high-class brandies, bought in the ordinary way in shops, yielded a fairly uniform result as regarded the proportion of ethers, and enabled a safe standard to be formed for judging the genuineness of the liquor in question. Judged in that way the liquor supplied was not of the nature, substance, and quality of brandy. For the appellants it was argued that there was no standard for brandy, and that the Sheriff-Substitute's decision was wrong because it proceeded on a finding that brandy was pure grape-spirit. It was further argued that the inspector was told that the liquor supplied was Tricoche's brandy. Lord Trayner said that instead of stating the course of reasoning by which he arrived at his decision, the Sheriff stated in point of fact what he held on the evidence. There was a definite fact that the inspector went into the shop for a bottle of brandy, and he got a bottle of liquor containing one-half of raw grain spirit. Therefore it was not of the nature, substance, and quality of brandy. The only point of difficulty in the case was that the purchaser went into the bar and asked what kind of brandy the appellants were selling, and that he received the answer, "Tricoche's brandy." The label on the bottle, however, did not indicate that it was Tricoche brandy, but old brandy. Lord Moncreiff and the Lord Justice Clerk concurred, and the appeal was dismissed, the respondents being found entitled to seven guineas expenses.

"Gaming Contracts."—A case of considerable interest to Mincing Lane brokers was decided by Mr. Justice Darling in the King's Bench Division of the High Court on December 19. It was an action brought by Messrs. Price, Hickman & Co., 4 Mincing Lane, E.C., against Emil Schiller, a violin-maker, of 103 Great Portland Street, to recover 123l. 5s. 3d., the balance alleged to be due to the plaintiffs on the purchase and sale of cotton and sugar, and for brokerage and contract-stamps. The defendant alleged that the transactions were gaming transactions, and that, therefore, the plaintiffs could not recover the amount, as the contracts came within 8 and 9 Vict., c. 109, Section 18; but that if he were found liable, the third party, Charles Eduard Dahmann, by virtue of a promise to indemnify the defendant against all loss, should have judgment entered up against him for the amount due and costs. It appeared from the evidence that the plaintiffs carried out the business as brokers upon the market, and that the only profit they made was the usual brokerage. A contract-note in the usual form was sent to the defendant in respect of each order. The note contained the clause: "The contract, of which this is a note, is made between ourselves and yourselves and not by or with any person whether disclosed or not, on whose instructions or for whose benefit the same may have been entered into." The cotton contracts also contained a clause that "In case differences are not paid when called for, we to have the option of closing this contract for account of the party in default without further notice." Mr. Justice Darling, in giving judgment, said that the contracts made by the plaintiffs on the market were merely "hedging" contracts entered into by them in order that their commission might be safe. He also found that the contracts between the plaintiffs and the defendant were made as principals. That the covering-contracts made upon the market were complete and not partial, and made no difference in the principle. He found, as a fact, that there was a complete understanding between the plaintiffs and the defendant that differences only should be paid, and that the contracts entered into should never be enforced by calling for delivery of the goods purported to be sold. In his opinion the contracts were gaming contracts, and there must be judgment for the defendant.

High Court Cases.

GYPTICAN OIL.

IN the King's Bench Division on Saturday, December 19, before Mr. Justice Grantham, the case of Sir W. C. Leng & Co., *Sheffield Telegraph* (Limited) v. Gyptican Oil Company was mentioned. Mr. H. Wills, who appeared for the

plaintiffs, said they claimed 119*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* Although there was no consent to the judgment, his learned friend, Mr. Given, who represented the defendants, would admit that the amount was due. Mr. Given: I agree. Judgment was then entered for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, and the costs of the action.

HOMOCEA CAPITAL.

IN the Chancery Division on Saturday, December 19, Mr. Justice Joyce had before him a petition for the reduction of the capital of this company from 250,000*l.* to 60,000*l.* by writing off 10*s.* from each preference share and 15*s.* from each ordinary share. Mr. Younger, K.C., supported the petition and read the affidavit of Mr. Hooker, and said the affidavits purported to show a loss of about 97,000*l.*, but in fact the only loss that had to be proved was 55,514*l.*, as it was only in that respect they were reducing the capital. In 1897 the company purchased patents and trade-marks for 141,000*l.*, but that sum was altogether too high—it was ridiculous.

Mr. Justice Joyce: It was a bad bargain?

Mr. Younger said that was so. In 1897 the company paid a dividend on the preference shares, but since then they had paid no dividend at all. Their only assets consisted of the trade-marks, patents and the goodwill of the business, and the question was whether they were worth anything like 141,000*l.* The plaintiffs said that the outside figure they could obtain with a sale was 40,000*l.* The resolutions supporting the scheme had been unanimous. There was an arrear of dividend on the preference shares amounting to over 19,000*l.*, and it was part of the scheme which had been supported that the preference shareholders should receive 4,000 fully paid preference shares in respect of the arrears.

Mr. Justice Joyce was satisfied the loss had been sustained and sanctioned the petition.

Medicine-stamp Acts.

UNSTAMPED "CHESHIRE BOTTLE."

AT the Newcastle-under-Lyme County Police Court on Monday, December 21, Isaac Hollins, general dealer, Ravens Lane, Audley, Staffs, was summoned for selling medicines without a licence on September 17.

Mr. Shaw, Solicitor to Somerset House, prosecuted on behalf of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

Mr. Fraser, Inland Revenue officer, said he called at defendant's shop and purchased a bottle of medicine described as "Cheshire bottle." A bottle of the preparation, which is made at Mow Cop, Cheshire, was handed in, and the directions on the label showed that it could be used with equally beneficial effects, either inwardly or outwardly, upon horses, cows, calves, and human beings. It was recommended for cows overheated with clover, cows that had been scouring, gargling the udder, cows with a cold, calving cows, calves that had "gurr," and horses with stomachache. In human beings it was recommended outwardly for scalds, burns, sore wounds, chilblains, sprains, lumbago, sciatica, rheumatism, headache, and toothache. Taken inwardly it was said to be good for the stomach and for spasms, pain in the bowels, or inflammation. Children might take twenty drops. Mr. Fraser said he ascertained that the defendant did not hold a licence to sell medicines. The defence was that the medicine was not for sale, but had been bought for defendant's personal use. The Bench imposed a fine of 5*s.* and 9*s.* 6*d.* costs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

OLIVE OIL.

AT Nottingham on December 18, Robert Latham, 308 Meadow Lane, was summoned for selling olive oil adulterated with 95 per cent. of petroleum. The prosecuting solicitor explained that the defendant was a greengrocer, and also sold a few drugs. Evidence was given by Inspector Sutton, who said that the price charged (4*d.* for 4 oz.) was the usual sum for olive oil. The defendant stated that all chemists kept two kinds of olive oil, "olive optimum," the best quality, and "olive sub," or "under quality." He ordered "olive sub" from the manufacturer, and had not interfered with it

in any way. He had written to the manufacturer, and the reply was handed up to the Bench. The Chairman said the letter completely gave the defendant's case away, for it was clear from it that "sub" meant substitute. Defendant was fined 20*s.* and 9*s.* 6*d.* costs.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

AT the Kettering Petty Sessions, on December 16, Elijah Thompson, a small shopkeeper in Kettering, was fined 5*s.*, and 6*s.* costs, for selling sweet spirit of nitre which the county analyst, Dr. E. W. Voelcker, certified to be 20 per cent. deficient in nitrous ether. For the defence it was stated that the defendant only sold the sweet nitre in pennyworths, and did not dispose of more than 10*s.* worth in a year. He had undertaken not to sell any more. The spirit was exceedingly evaporative and volatile, and the defendant being unaware of that had kept it in the sunshine.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re JOSEPH BLOOM MEGGITT, formerly director and manager of Samuel Meggitt & Sons (Limited), chemical-manufacturers, of Mansfield, Notts.—Debtor applied at Nottingham Bankruptcy Court on December 16 for his discharge from bankruptcy. The Official Receiver stated that the liabilities were 3,700*l.*, and dividends amounting to 2*s.* 11½*d.* in the pound had been paid. The discharge was suspended for three years.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Hartley, H. E., Hartley, A. M., and Hartley, P. J., under the style of J. E. Hartley & Son, J. Eborall Hartley, the Anglo-American Varnish Company, and the Tannette Company, manufacturer, &c., Birmingham; so far as regards P. J. Hartley.

Rogers, F. E., and Allen, W. P., under the style of Rogers & Allen, Bethnal Green Road, London, E., physicians, &c.

Stanton, T., and Thompson, F. W., under the style of Stanton & Thompson, Reading, veterinary surgeons, &c.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Buer, Henry Wells, Maidenhead, licensed valuer and patent-medicine vendor, lately carrying on the business of a financier.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Atkinson, Robert, Smethwick, Staffordshire, surgeon.

Beynon, John Thomas (trading as Beynon & Co.), Monmouth, chemist and druggist.

Brooks, Walter, Heywood, Lancashire, botanical brewer and cordial-manufacturer.

Davies, Robert Thomas, Prestatyn, Flintshire, physician and surgeon.

John, Josiah, Glanne Wells, near Builth, Breconshire, mineral-water proprietor.

Thomas, David Llewellyn, Norwich, registered medical practitioner.

Topping, Edwin Samuel, late Kingswood Avenue, Queen's Park, W., medical practitioner.

New Companies & Company News.

YOUNG'S BOTANIC BREWERY (NOTTINGHAM, DERBY, AND BURTON) (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares (2,500 preference). Objects: To adopt agreements and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in aerated and mineral waters, cordials and beverages of all kinds, brewers and retailers of all kinds of botanic and other beers, bottle and stopper manufacturers, &c. No initial public issue. Registered office, 149 Brewery Lane, Derby.

TORQUAY ELECTRO-THERAPEUTIC INSTITUTE (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To provide and maintain an establishment for the cure and relief of diseases and ailments by electricity or other kindred treatment, to provide and administer electric-light baths, to carry on the business of electricians, electrical and mechanical engineers and suppliers of electricity, &c. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 100 shares. Remuneration (except managing director), 20*l.* each per annum. Registered office, 5 Forward Street, Torquay.

ELECTRO-SULPHUR AND LIGHT COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To establish, equip, open, and carry on business as proprietors of water, light, electric, and other baths, and other appliances for the curative or sedative treatment of all or any organs of the body for therapeutic and other purposes, to administer light-and-colour treatment, and any other treatment with or without sulphur, water or other vehicle, &c. Minimum cash subscription, 2,500*l.* The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, 250*l.* per annum, divisible. Registered office, 142 Gray's Inn Road, W.C.

KROEGER LIGHT CURE AND ELECTRO-THERAPEUTIC INSTITUTES (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the goodwill of the businesses heretofore carried on by M. Kroeger at 67 Elizabeth Street, Eaton Square, S.W., and 11 Grand Parade, Eastbourne, by the said M. Kroeger and Mrs. I. Maxwell at 12 Cheniston Gardens, W., and by the said M. Kroeger, A. L. Smith, and Miss E. E. Smith, at Mansion House Chambers, 11 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., under the style of "Kroeger Light-cure Institutes," and to carry on the business of proprietors of hospitals, sanatoria, hydropathic and other establishments, spas, medicated, light, electric, Turkish, vapour or other baths, medical, nursing, convalescent and other homes, laboratories and institutes for the treatment, alleviation, and cure of diseases and ailments, &c.

EASEPHUT MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, manufacturing druggists, makers of pills and ointments, oil-merchants, vendors of foodstuffs, perfumes, glassware, bottles, and patent medicines, dealers in jewellery and toys, &c. The first subscribers are: G. R. Stanton, 25 Taylors Road, Stretford; A. E. Danson, Ashlands, Stretford, stationer; C. R. Davies, 100 Eccles New Road, Salford, stationer; S. Davies, 72 Parrin Lane, Monton, printer; A. Bruckshaw, 2 Halliwell Place, Heaton Park, Manchester, salesman; H. Hobson, 1 Clunda Road, Lower Crumpsall, traveller; and W. Davies, 100 Eccles New Road, Manchester, printer. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. The first directors are G. R. Stanton, A. E. Danson, C. R. Davies, S. Davies, A. Bruckshaw, H. Hobson, and W. Davies. Registered office, 1210 Chester Road, Stretford.

CHEMICALS (LIMITED).—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with Eschweiler-Woltereck Process Syndicate (Limited), to acquire any patents, patent-rights, inventions, concessions, and the like, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of ammonia and compounds and salts of ammonia, sulphuric acid, nitric acid, acetic acid, acetone, acetate of lime, acetic acid salts, tar, naphtha, paraffin-wax, and other products of the destructive distillation of carbonaceous material, water and producer gas, coal-gas, alkalies, alkaline salts, charcoal and coke, general chemical manufacturers, mechanical, electrical, and chemical engineers, &c. The first subscribers are: H. S. Sudgen, 10 Ironmonger Lane, E.C., solicitor; H. C. Woltereck, 16 Ashley Place, S.W., consulting chemist; L. Sinclair, M.P., 7 Netherall Gardens, N.W.; G. W. Ireland, 171 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., merchant; E. W. Cox, 2 Langdale Villas, Brownhill Road, S.E., analytical chemist; J. W. Stibbins, 20 Manor Road, Beckenham, merchant; and S. C. Leonard, 75 Shepherd's Bush Green, W., accountant. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 500*l.* shares or stock. Remuneration, 200*l.* each per annum (250*l.* for the chairman). Registered office, 3 Edinburgh Mansions, Howick Place, S.W.

REGULATING PRICES.—M. Thomas, of MM. G. Thomas & Co., prominent druggists of Agen, has been working for a considerable time past at a scheme for regulating the selling-prices of pharmaceutical specialities in France. His project is to form an understanding between proprietors and pharmacists for the latter to sell such articles at face-values. M. Thomas contemplates forming an association of pharmacists, to be called the "French Alliance of Pharmaceutical Interests," to which he has already received a large number of adherents. Some time ago he called a meeting at Paris, which was attended by the representatives of forty-one pharmaceutical speciality houses, but no definite arrangement was come to, and M. Thomas fully appreciates the difficulties of his undertaking. Other schemes of a similar kind also exist here, but not on quite the same lines as this new one, which aims at maintaining the full market-price.

Trade Notes.

STOCK-TAKING.—The warehouse and laboratories of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Charlotte Street, E.C., will be closed on December 28 and 29 for stocktaking.

ORIENTAL TOOTH-PASTE is now on the P.A.T.A. list. Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown inform us that the minimum retail prices are 1*s.* 4*d.* for the 1*s.* 6*d.* size, and 2*s.* for the 2*s.* 6*d.*

PROTECTED.—In a note in our issue of December 19 as to firms who protect prices independently of the P.A.T.A. we should have included Gypican oil. Agreements have to be signed by wholesaler and retailer.

MESSRS. C. BOGLER & Co., 6 Great St. Helen's, London, E.C., have been appointed sole agents in the United Kingdom for the sale of vanillin, essential oils, &c., manufactured by the Société Française de l'Industrie Chimique of Courbevoie, near Paris.

MESSRS. LORIMER & Co. (LIMITED), of Britannia Row, Islington, N., send us a sample of their new season's tr. aurantii, B.P. 1898. The tincture is of correct colour, and the flavour and aroma will bear comparison with any of the galenicals we have had under review.

BOOTS' DIARIES.—Boots (Limited) have issued three diaries this year: (1) commercial, (2) home, and (3) pocket. The diaries differ in size, and the first two are interleaved with blotting-paper. Each diary carries with it an insurance-coupon for 500*l.* and contains useful information, as well as other pages which advertise Boots' business to the public.

HYODIN is the new name which Messrs. R. W. Gardner have adopted for their syrup of hydriodic acid. Under the new name the syrup is to be brought prominently before the medical profession. Messrs. Thos. Christy & Co., 4, 10 and 12 Old Swan Lane, E.C., who are the agents for Hyodin, ask us to state that they will re-label any stock which chemists may have on hand.

A NEW SCHOOL.—Students in South Wales will in future have the advantage of a local school of pharmacy, for particulars are given in our advertisement pages this week of the South Wales College of Pharmacy and Chemistry, which has been established at 27 Westbourne Place, Cardiff. The principal is Mr. Henry Knappe. He is a pharmaceutical chemist, was a double medallist and prizeman at the Bloomsbury School, and a Northway-Butt Research scholar, so that he possesses qualifications for a successful teacher.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ALMANAC FOR 1904 keeps up the reputation of the forty-two volumes which have preceded it. It seems to us to get bulkier than ever, but the contents are not less interesting. Mr. Bedding, the editor, has a very suggestive article on "Some By-paths of Photographic Printing," from which many hints about little-known processes can be gleaned. The almanac is published at 1*s.* 6*d.* (cloth), and 1*s.* (paper covers), and photographic chemists should not delay ordering, as we are informed the whole edition is bespoken.

OTTO OF ROSE.—In May last we announced the formation of a syndicate of rose-growers and otto-of-rose distillers, at Karlovo, Bulgaria, known as the "Association Producteur Bulgare," whose object was to place on the market a "perfectly pure otto." We now understand from their London agents, Messrs. P. Samuelson & Co., 27 Mincing Lane, E.C., that the members of the syndicate have been very successful on this market during the past year, some important contracts having been placed with them. Mr. E. J. Parry, who has analysed a sample, states that it is genuine otto of rose free from any added matter.

HOVENDEN'S LIST.—The new revised and illustrated catalogue of Messrs. R. Hovenden & Sons (Limited), Berners Street, W. and City Road, E.C., is a business-looking volume of 572 pages and 28 pages of index. The catalogue is a model of straightforward arrangement, and the articles catalogued (and carefully indexed) are apparently innumerable. In front of the section dealing with patents and proprietary articles are two pages which are topical, and will be found not the least useful in the volume. The first

deals with stamp-duty on medicines, the extract from 52 George III., c. 150, being given in full; and the second page details the regulations required by the Pharmacy Act, 1868, to be observed in selling by retail and in dispensing poisons. The list is clearly printed, and the illustrations are profuse.

A. & H. CHOCOLATE.—Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited), Bethnal Green, E., have started yet another side-line. Their latest production is "Allenburys" Milk-food Chocolate. This chocolate contains 25 per cent. of the No. 1 "Allenburys" Milk Food, and is intended as a concentrated and easily digested—not to mention pleasant and agreeable—form of nutriment for adult and child. The chocolate is produced in threepenny and sixpenny tablets, each tablet being wrapped in tinfoil and enclosed in a slide cardboard box with a tasteful label. The flavour and finish of the product are, as we can testify, excellent, and the fact that it is an "Allenburys" product is sufficient guarantee of its nutritive quality. It is intended to keep the sale of the chocolate in the hands of chemists only. The wholesale prices are 5s. per dozen for one dozen 6d. or two dozen 3d. tablets, and the prices are on the P.A.T.A. protected list.

Personalities.

THE committee of the Parisian Press Association have awarded 60,000f. to Mme. Curie for the continuation of her researches in radium.

ALDERMAN C. GODDARD CLARKE, J.P., has again been selected as one of the Progressive candidates for Peckham, for the L.C.C. election in March, 1904.

MR. WM. ROBINSON, who is retiring, has carried on the business of W. & J. Robinson, chemists, Cockermouth, for over fifty-one years, and has served daily behind the counter for sixty-three years.

MR. G. W. SLATTER, F.C.S., chemist to Sir Titus Salt, Bart., Sons & Co., of Saltaire, has been presented with a silver bowl by his colleagues, on the occasion of his leaving the firm after twenty-four years' service.

MR. SAMUEL WOODCOCK, a noted Manchester doctor, magistrate, and citizen, who was afforded practically a public funeral last week, served his apprenticeship with Mr. John Hughes, chemist and druggist, Market Place, Middleton.

THE marriage arranged between T. Cushway Bliss, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Bliss, of Coningsburgh, Ealing, and Maud, only daughter of Mr. Albert Cooper, F.C.S., of Grimston Lawn, Ealing, and 80 Gloucester Road, S.W., will take place quietly (owing to the family being in mourning for the bride's mother) on January 6.

At a meeting of the Slough Urban Council on Tuesday a letter was read from Mr. James Elliman's solicitors stating that gentleman's willingness to give twenty-six acres of land for a recreation-ground. Mr. Elliman, in addition, offers to spend 5,000l. in laying the ground out, and further intends investing 10,000l. to endow it as a recreation-ground. The Council accepted the gift.

MR. ROBERT CLAY SUDLOW, P.Asst.G.D.C. (general manager to Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), presided at the election-meeting of the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, 2,712, held at the Hotel Cecil on December 18, when Mr. Thomas F. Halsey, M.P., the newly-appointed Deputy Grand Master, was the principal guest. Amongst others present were Alderman Vaughan Morgan, P.G.Treas., Mr. T. Walkley, jun., P.G.D., and Mr. F. C. Van Duzer, P.Asst.G.D.C.

MR. FREDERICK BASCOMBE, North London Chemical-works, Holloway, N., is the bowling man of mark in the last issue of *Country Sport*, which says:

As a player Mr. Bascombe shows special favour for fixed-jack competitions, and among other ways in which he has most liberally helped himself in these contests were the carrying off of two first and a second prize in a single season (1902). In addition to taking part in matches for the Lambeth Carlton B.C., he has now ranged himself under the ensign of the Herne Hill Club, and marked his first season by bearing away a souvenir of success. Captain James Manson can well claim in the new recruit a certainly old soldier in the pastime—paradoxical though the expression may appear.

Marriage.

GREGORY—BRAVERY.—On December 9, at Holy Trinity Church, Bournemouth, by the Rev. J. Martin, William John Gregory, chemist and druggist, of Weymouth, to Olive, second daughter of Mr. William Bravery, of Brighton, Sussex.

Deaths.

BUTCHER.—At St. Leonards, on December 21, Mr. William Butcher, chemist and druggist, of Blackheath. Mr. Butcher was a well-known homœopathic chemist and built up an important business in homœopathies. He is perhaps best known to pharmacy, however, as the founder of the firm of W. Butcher & Sons, wholesale photographic dealers, Camera House, St. Bride Street, E.C. He had been retired from business for some time and was suffering from nervous depression. He leaves a widow and sons, two of whom are registered chemists.

HARDING.—On December 13, Mrs. Harding, widow of Mr. James Harding, chemist and druggist, of Old Market Place, Sudbury, aged sixty-five.

PIDGEON.—At Ealing, on December 8, Mr. John Pidgeon, chemist and druggist, Ealing, aged seventy-six.

REEVES.—At Norwich, on December 12, at Mr. Richard Reeves, chemist and druggist, late manager for Boots (Limited), chemists, Magdalen Street, Norwich, aged thirty-one. Although he went to Norwich barely five years ago, Mr. Reeves succeeded in winning the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends, as was evidenced by the attendance at the funeral, which took place on December 17.

SEWELL.—On December 15, at Liverpool Mr. Edward J. Sewell, pharmaceutical chemist, Killomey. The deceased was well known all over co. Kerry, and his death is greatly regretted.

SMITH.—At Newcastle-on-Tyne, on December 10, Mr. George Forster Smith, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-seven.

YOUNG.—At Hazlehurst, Clytha Park, Newport-on-Usk, on December 13, Mr. John Young, pharmaceutical chemist, of the firm of John Young & Sons, chemists, High Street, Newport, aged seventy-two. Mr. Young had always enjoyed good health, but on the morning of his death while preparing to leave his residence for his place of business, he suddenly fell forward against the mantelpiece and expired before medical aid could be procured. It is thought that death was due to heart-failure. He was a native of Berwick-on-Tweed, and about forty years ago he entered the service of Mr. E. J. Phillips, J.P., Newport, at that time probably the oldest chemist in the town. When Mr. Phillips retired, Mr. Young purchased the business and had carried it on ever since. Latterly two of his sons had been associated with him in the concern. A third son is a chemist at Cardiff. Mr. Young was a member of the Board of Directors of the Newport and Monmouthshire Hospital. Mr. Young was one of the best-known chemists in South Wales, and was held in universal respect. Quiet, unobtrusive, but always ready to do an act of kindness, his loss will be much felt in the Usk side town and port.

Recent Wills.

BETTLE.—The will of the late Mr. Frederick Selby Bettle, chemist and druggist, of Wellington, Som., who died on May 5, has been proved at the Taunton Registry, probate being granted to Mr. Lewis Mowbray Gater, hotel-keeper. The gross estate is valued at 348l.

MURPHY.—The will of the late Mr. John Murphy, chemical manufacturer, of Vauxhall Works, Liverpool, has been proved at 30,963l. 13s. 7d. gross, the net personalty amounting to 26,773l. 8s. 7d. He authorises the trustees to carry on his business, and leaves legacies amounting to 200l. to three charitable institutions in Liverpool.

Business Changes.

MR. R. ROBERTSON, chemist and druggist, of Eyemouth, is opening a business at Berwick-on-Tweed.

MR. W. F. COLE, chemist and druggist, has recently opened a business at Norwich Road, Lowestoft.

MR. S. W. WALLIS, pharmaceutical chemist, has acquired the business at 51 High Road, Stamford Hill, N.

MESSRS. BAMBROUGH (LIMITED), chemists, have opened premises at 7 South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. J. SHAW, chemist and druggist, Thornton Heath, is opening a branch at 249 Portland Road, Woodside, South Norwood, S.E.

MESSRS. TIPPING & EDMUND, chemists, have refitted and reconstructed their premises at 155 High Street, Stoke Newington, N.

AFTER January 1, 1904, the old-established business of James Bates (Limited), at Wellington, Salop, will be carried on under the title of Bates & Hunt, chemists.

MR. J. M. GRAHAM, proprietor of the Whalley drug-stores, Upper Jackson Street, Manchester, is felling off the stock. We understand the premises are to be closed.

MR. R. W. WILLIAMS, chemist and druggist, has bought the business formerly carried on by Mr. C. N. Coles, chemist and druggist, at 12 Rathcole Parade, Hornsey, N.

MR. J. WELLS WOOD, chemist and druggist, 92 Green Lanes, N., has acquired the business of J. Howard & Co., patent-medicine-dealers, at 18 and 19 Queenhithe, E.C.

MR. TEMPLAR E. MALINS, chemist and druggist, will on January 1, 1904, take over the retail drug-business hitherto carried on at 29 Queen Street, Cardiff, by Templar Malins (Limited).

MR. ANDREW WHITEHEAD, chemist and druggist, has commenced business in Gourley's buildings, corner of Church Square and Tower Street, under the style of "Church Square Pharmacy," West Hartlepool.

MR. F. B. SLEIGH, chemist and druggist, for eight years with Mr. Cornelius Bayley, of Walsall, has purchased the business in Market Place, Willenhall, carried on for many years by Messrs. Thomas & Co.

MR. T. COLEMAN, chemist and druggist, has sold his business at 216 London Road, South Lowestoft, to Mr. John Brown, chemist and druggist, who has been his senior assistant for the past eight years.

THE style of the firm hitherto known as "Berdoe & Co., chemists' valuers and transfer agents, 35 Jewry Street Fenchurch Street, E.C., will in future be "Berdoe & Fish." The business will be carried on as before under the personal direction of Mr. W. S. Fish.

THE old-established business of chemist and druggist carried on by Mr. W. Thomas, Builth Wells, Breconshire, Mid-Wales, has been closed, the occupier retiring from business. The fixtures and stock have been purchased by Mr. Ward, chemist, High Street, Builth. Messrs. Tomlinson & Son, Manchester, were the valuers.

New Books.

Carter, R. B. *Doctors and their Work; or, Medicine, Quackery, and Disease.* 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5. Pp. 324. 6s. (Smith & E.)

Dock, L. L. *Text-book of Materia Medica for Nurses.* Cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. net. (Putnam.)

Hall, I. W. *The Purin Bodies of Food Stuffs, and the Role of Uric Acid in Health and Disease.* 2nd ed. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5. Pp. 216. 4s. 6d. net. (Sherratt & Hughes.)

Lunge, G. *Theoretical and Practical Treatise on Manufacture of Sulphuric Acid and Alkali, with Collateral Branches.* 3rd ed. Vol. I., two parts. 9 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 1,242. 52s. 6d. (Gurney & J.)

Wright, G. A. and C. H. Preston. *Handbook of Surgical Anatomy.* 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5. Pp. 242. 4s. 6d. net. (Sherratt.)

Adulterated Citronella Oil.

By ERNEST J. PARRY and C. T. BENNETT.

A SHIPMENT of citronella oil recently imported has been examined, and disclosed an adulterant which, although easily detected on analysis, is of a very dangerous nature when an oil is sold as a "Schimmel's test" contract and is only examined in reference to its solubility. The adulterant was alcohol, which was present to the extent of 20 per cent., and had probably been added in order to make an already adulterated oil soluble, and thus pass "Schimmel's test." The oil had the following characters:

Sp. gr. ...	...	...	...	0.899
Optical rotation ...	...	...	...	-12°
Refractive index ...	...	...	...	1.4578
Geraniol value ...	...	...	...	50 per cent.

On distillation under reduced pressure the oil commenced to boil so rapidly that the vacuum was broken and the distillate carried out at atmospheric pressure. Twenty per cent. was obtained in a steady stream, with the thermometer constant at 82°-83°, after which it rapidly rose. The distillate was soluble in water to the extent of 95 per cent., the remaining 5 per cent. being oil mechanically carried over. The liquid at once yielded a large quantity of iodoform when treated in the usual manner, and boiled practically constantly at 80°. It was, therefore, clearly alcohol mixed with some water, as probably a strong spirit had been used for the adulteration.

Full particulars of the test for adulterated citronella oil, devised by Mr. Kelway Bamber, agricultural chemist to the Government of Ceylon (a brief outline of which appeared on page 1011 of this volume of this journal), have been forwarded to us, and we hope to make experiments with it in the course of the next few weeks. It is obvious that the adulterant above described—viz., alcohol—would not be detected by this test, and it may be found that substances like resin-spirit or Russian petroleum could not be detected in small quantities, since these bodies are freely soluble. It is, at all events, highly improbable that a quantitative determination can be made in citronella oil and in mixtures of citronella oil and alcohol of the specified strength. The test depends on the solubility of the adulterant in the fixed oil being greater than its solubility in the mixture of citronella oil and alcohol of specified strength. We are glad that steps are being taken to ensure the purity of this oil, and hope that the supply of citronella oil in future will be above suspicion.

Iron in Glycerin.

By E. DOWZARD, F.C.S.

THE presence of iron in glycerin is very objectionable, as anything more than a very faint trace gives an unsightly preparation with tannic acid. It would be advisable to have a definite test in the next B.P. for it. The test I have been using for a number of years, and which has always given perfect satisfaction, is performed as follows:

Pour about 75 c.c. of glycerin into a Nessler glass; to this add 2 c.c. of a 5-per-cent. solution of tannic acid, and make the mixture up to 100 c.c. with water. After mixing thoroughly, the liquid is allowed to stand for fifteen to twenty minutes. The colour is then noted by placing the Nessler glass on a white tile in a good light, and looking through the column of liquid from above. At the most there should only be a slight darkening in colour.

The tannic-acid solution should contain 20 per cent. of alcohol to prevent decomposition. Glycerin which will stand this test is now easily obtainable. Some samples when examined by the method turn to an almost inky blackness, and a great number give a very distinct darkening.

QUININE and its salts, and cinchona and its official preparations, can now be imported into Mauritius free of duty.

THE exports of coriander, caraway, and cumin-seeds from Tangier last year amounted to 1,530 cwt., against 193 cwt. in 1901.

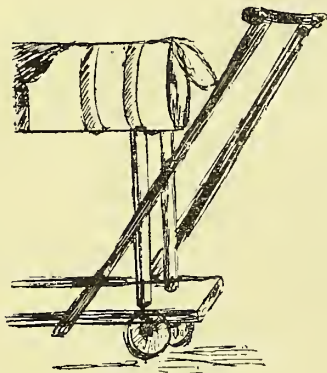
The Equisetinae.

THE other evening I had some veal-and-ham pie before going to bed, and this is the result of my dreams:

I was sitting in my accustomed seat in the lecture-theatre, awaiting a botanical lecture, when the door opened, and, instead of the trim Professor, there entered a gentleman garbed in a costume technically known as "horsey." Without any introduction, he proceeded to deliver a lecture on the *Equisetinae*,

of its shortness, it is of no use for removing flies or other insects, and is an outcome of the demands of fashion. It is seen sometimes adorned with red ribbon, not to signify that it has been vaccinated, but that the structure to which it is attached is liable to kick.

"We now close our short discourse with the *Equisetum Funerale*," but as the lecturer pointed to the diagram he faded away; and the next thing I saw was a hearse drawn by two jet-black horses. I peered inside as it passed me, and saw a cadaver, so I said; "Who are you?" "My name is Botany," replied the cadaver



EQUISETUM INFANTALE

or horse-tails, which he illustrated by diagrams, which I have endeavoured to reproduce from memory.

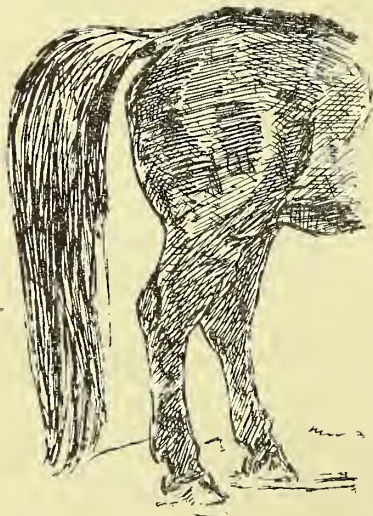
"Gentlemen," he said, "I will start at the beginning of this large order by describing the *Equisetum Infantale*. In appear-



EQUISETUM SPORTUM



EQUISETUM DRAYUM



EQUISETUM FUNERALE

ance it is small and fluffy, being attached to the woody tissue with seccotine or other cement; it is deciduous, being pulled off at an early stage of its existence. The structure upon which it grows is usually imported from Germany, and looks like it.

"We now pass on to a more imposing structure, the *Equisetum Drayum*; this particular species is usually seen in close connection with beer-carts, and in its native condition is long and filamentous; but it is customary to tie the filaments up with straw, giving the appearance seen in the diagram.

"From this species we go to the *Equisetum Sportum*, where we find a striking difference. In appearance it is insignificant and stunted, resembling a much-used hand-brush. By reason

"I am hated by so many that I am going to be buried." I felt so pleased at this that I awoke and took a digestive tablet.

W. H. A.

At the Counter.

A KENTISH RECIPE.—A Bromley chemist recently dispensed the following "prescription":—

- 3 penny worth turp miniral.
- 3 " vinius turpintine.
- 3 " mark of dulterate.
- 3 " rhubarb.

To be made up in thirty-six pills.

The owner of the receipt takes it for "breakings-out," and finds it very good. The third item was taken to mean calomel, and, of course, the whole was put together with discretion.

FROM SCOTLAND.—A subscriber in a Border town recently sent a batch of orders from which we select the following: "Tincture of Rubrub," "Kyan pods," "Alcocoeks porrouses," "Roe shell salts," "Citrit Macnease," "Fines Allam," "Staveacker of loslan for the head to clean it," "Boeslemna," "Percalade of iron," "Mash Mala," "Halabour" and "Hobaburt;" "Eppieuca" and "Eppakeekuna." Another Scotch order called for "One Bottol of the Blak mixt your same as got Five month ago for the Bowls as they are a deranged and out of order and punctuality."

MISCELLANEOUS MANUSCRIPT.—From various sources come written requests that have been presented for "Yelou Meacin" (corrected to "Yellow Mezalican") "A penny bottle of firneter past rub pieter frames," "Varraco's ulcers," "Syrup rubbert," "Hornvica ointment," "Estifeteta," "Cherush allam," "Pac ceppet" and "Youperlipus." One depressed mortal demands some "Happy Dill Dock," while a learned person with a smattering of pharmacy, but a deficiency in orthography, writes for a "bottle of Lecquar Paricay flaves," and some quinine. Horehound candy becomes "Candy or rond" to another anxious parent's mind. Three well-known proprietary articles are asked for as "Doctor Colis Brown's Cloydrean," "Miss Winslough's seething Surghe" and "Elems ember casherin." A pathetic order calls for "one packet of powder the most surest Insect Killer you have got: No matter what price if it is a sure destroyer."

Commercial Jaborandi.

PROFESSOR HENRY H. RUSBY has communicated to the *Bulletin of Pharmacy* an interesting paper upon the species of *Pilocarpus* which are found in the market. Fifteen species, he says, are accepted by botanists, and five of these are important articles of commerce, two of them being worthy of confidence. The commercial leaves are represented in the subjoined engravings.



Jaborandi-leaves: A, Pernambuco; B, Maranhão; C, Aracati; D, Rio; E, Ceara.

The best jaborandi is that known as Maranhão, derived from *Pilocarpus microphyllus*. It is commonly known as small-leaved jaborandi, and has been accepted as the official variety in the forthcoming edition of the U.S.P. It contains nearly 1 per cent of pilocarpine. It is not quite known where Maranhão jaborandi comes from. It is called Maranhão because the first supplies were imported from that city. The leaf varies from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long by half to two-thirds as broad. The lateral leaflets, of which there are two for each terminal one, are without petioles, and they are unequally and somewhat angularly oval to obovate, acute at the base, somewhat thick and rigid, smooth, and dull-green, the midrib stout, the veins rather coarsely reticulate, lightly prominent. The terminal leaflets are similar, except that they have a short margined petiole, a tapering base, are equally oval to obovate, and rather narrower than the lateral leaflets. The drug has little odour and an aromatic salty and bitterish taste. There is a substitute for this leaf in commerce—namely, the leaflets of a species of *Swartzia*. It is a fraudulent substitution, and although bearing a general resemblance to Maranhão jaborandi, the *Swartzia* leaf can be at once recognised by the absence of the transparent dots.

Pernambuco jaborandi is the large or yellow-leaved jaborandi at present official, and is derived from *P. Jaborandi*, Holmes. The leaf is from 2 to 5 inches long, and one-third as broad. The other characteristic features are the somewhat large margin, the smooth, slightly shining, yellowish-green surface, and the prominent reticulate venation in both surfaces. In odour and taste it resembles the Maranhão jaborandi. Its common substitutes are the Rio and Paraguay varieties. Rio jaborandi is properly derived, says Professor Rusby, from *P. pennatifolius*, Lemaire, while the Paraguay is from *P. Sellowianus*, Engler. The Rio leaf is probably the most largely collected and sold of all the jaborandi, although it contains very little alkaloid, the yield being not more than 0.2 per cent. It is less shining than the Pernambuco jaborandi, and the venation is not so prominent. It is about the same size. The Paraguay closely resembles it, and is found of less value, while it is adulterated with maté. The most abundant variety of jaborandi is the

ceara, black or velvety, jaborandi derived from *P. trachylophus*, Holmes. This is marketed on a rather extensive scale, and is probably the most abundant jaborandi on the market. Although it is very easily recognised, it is bought readily as genuine pilocarpus by most purchasers. The mass exhibits at first sight a very dark, smudgy, blackish-green appearance. On closer inspection many leaves are seen to be folded or doubled in an irregular longitudinal direction. Usually only about an eighth or a quarter of an inch of the margin is thus turned, but occasionally the fold occurs nearly at the midrib. When flattened out it is seen to be almost regularly oblong or oval, about half as long as the Pernambuco variety, and relatively broader. Its lower surface is densely velvety hairy.

Professor Rusby also refers to the Aracati jaborandi from *P. spicatus*, St. Hil. It is brown and stemmy, and two or three inches long, and about one-third as broad. The leaf is thick, rigid, and brittle. Its taste is peculiar, having an acidity resembling that of pellitory-root, and by this alone it can be recognised. West Indian jaborandi from *P. racemosa*, Vahl is also occasionally on the market.

Reviews.

Lectures on Massage and Electricity in the Treatment of Disease. By T. STRETCH DOWSE, M.D. Fourth edition. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 454. 7s. 6d. net. Bristol: J. Wright & Co.

MASSAGE is an important physical aid in the treatment of disease, and is also useful on account of its tonic effects. In this book Dr. Dowse treats the subject in a series of lectures. The first deals with physical and physiological principles of massage, the next twelve with massage of various parts of the body, subsequent chapters being devoted to the Nauheim or Schott treatment in diseases of the heart, electrophysics, electrotherapeutics, Röntgen rays, and light treatment. The manipulations of masseurs are divided into four classes: effleurage, petrissage, tapotement, and friction. The first three terms will be readily understood if expressed as stroking, kneading, and tapping. The author explains the application of these methods, and with a subject to experiment on the reader will have no difficulty in following the descriptions and illustrations. The appendix, which occupies about thirty pages, deals with *x* rays, high-frequency currents, light-baths, and vibratory massage. The book is the best on the subject of massage with which we are acquainted.

Year-book of Pharmacy, with the Transactions of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at the fortieth annual meeting held in Bristol, July, 1903. Editor of the *Year-book*, J. O. BRAITHWAITE. Editors of the Transactions, E. SAVILLE PECK and EDMUND WHITE. $8\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. 659. 10s. J. & A. Churchill, Great Marlborough Street, W.

THIS year's volume is nearly a hundred pages bulkier than the preceding *Year-book*, the increase being evenly distributed between the abstracts and transactions. The research list for 1903 is published, and the reader will wonder whether this is a new list that is revised for 1904, or a reprint of the one which was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST last March. The abstracts in the sections of chemistry, materia medica, and pharmacy show evidence of careful selection and condensation. We notice that Dr. McWalter's paper on "The Pharmacology of the Suprarenal Gland" has been suppressed. The illustrations to Mr. Perrédes' paper on "The Anatomy of the *Salicaceæ*" are capitally reproduced in six plates.

Gurjun Balsam.—Tschirch and Weil (*Pharm. Central.* 1903, 761) have examined a number of samples of gurjun balsam, and give the following details: The sp. gr. lies between 0.950 and 0.957. The essential oil amounts to about 80 per cent. The resin consists of a small quantity of at least two acid-resins, and an indifferent resin, gurjuresene, $C_{17}H_{26}O_2$, makes up the remainder. The essential oil boils mostly at 255° .

A Pharmaceutical Pantomime.

A FRAGMENT from the pantomime-book intended for presentation at the Pied Bull Theatre on Boxing-night, but omitted for obvious reasons. We learn from the author's note that the characters were to be apportioned as follows:

Mr. Beerbohm Tree	as	S—R—A—
Mr. Herbert Campbell	"	C—B—A—
Mr. Wilson Barrett	"	A Scribe

AND

Sir Charles Wyndham	as	M—C—
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The scene in which the fragment was to be enacted was laid in a delectable mews which gives access to a seat of galenic learning. Big Ben is striking midnight.

Enter MR. WILSON BARRETT, disguised as a Practical Pharmacist.

W. B. The raw November fog enwraps me round,
Quite chilled my diaphragm and yet no sound
Of those that were appointed here to meet
And hatch the deep laid plot; fond hopes to beat
Of Glinns and Wotans who would us abuse.
(They little think I'm musing in the Mews,
Inhaling slow insidious NH₃.)
Surely the Chief has not forgotten Me,
Who, at his bidding, tries so many suits
That now my feet are bigger than my boots.
The darkness deepens, high the odours rise;
The starless heavens I'd fain apostrophise.

[Repeats dreamily in a tremulous quaver the following:

FIVE-AND-SIXPENNY REFRAIN.

There's a poultice for nits,
And an ointment for fits,
And a pill for a pained "Little Mary,"
And a lotion for coughs,
And a tablet for toffs

In the Free-to-the World Formulary.

Enter MR. TREE, made up as President Loubet.

B. T. (log.). *Voilà!* the Scribbler. Weep not, gentle youth,
Searching the heavens and earth for stamp-lore, sooth.
Although the hope of calm editorial worth
Lives e'en in us frail creatures of the Earth,
Low on the plinth where the Common Chemist leans
Rests Deep Disgust, giving metaphoric "beans"
Each unto each, as the Elect seek the Votes.
Clear doth thou echo then the mighty Cannon's Notes.

W. B. (injured). My Lord, I wept not—'twas the voice of song.
Surely thou wouldst not also do me wrong.

Enter MR. HERBERT CAMPBELL hastily, in a cloth cap and clogs.

H. C. (log.) Who prates of music at this dread hour of night?
Softly I swoop from my cold Kilburnian height,
Suffering fatigue, to attend the rendezvous.

B. T. My dear friend Herbert, it's extremely kind of you.
List! Methinks I hear upon the midnight breeze,
Wafted pellucid o'er imaginary trees,
Trumpetings of harmony: mayhap it is he—
Moon that is Ancient—a warbling merrily.

[All listen. Snatches of song in the distance. The Ancient approaches, singing.

THE BOND STREET JODEL.

To scoop the Glinn
I count no sin,
So hic me to the merry me-eting;
For deeds of guile
The Bond Street style
Will surely take a lot of be-eating.
My serfs become
Discreetly dumb
When on the stump I proudly thu-nder;
The Scribbler squirms,
The staff affirms
I am the One and Only Wo-nder.
Ho! Ho! Ha! Ha!
Let us disseemble;
Foes, near and far,
Will sorely tr-r-remble!
Lay-lay-lay-ee-tee!!

Enter SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, dressed as a mountaineer
He jodels three times, and the others kiss the earth.

SIR C. W. Gathered, my faithful band? Obeisance pay
To intellect that shineth as the day.
Now are we met our little plot to hatch,
While Scribbler pale from yonder wall doth watch,
Lest there shall come yon fearless Oxford knight
Whom men named Montés, spoiling for a fight;
Natheless the Glinn from his Temple haunts may hie
Firm to entrap us with his subtle barristry.
No? Then all is well; we're alone and unobserved.
To each his task now we must be firmly nerved.
I shall do the talking, silent must you keep;
I will be the Shepherd, you the faithful sheep. (Sings.)

THE SONG OF THE SCOOP.

SIR C. W. Wotan will not worship at the shrine of Ancient
Moons;

Montés has grown mutinous, declines to sing our tunes;
The Glinn is sadly scornful; so their energy we'll coop.
But just keep it very quiet, for we mean to scoop the Scoop.

THE TRIO. Yes, we'll keep it very quiet
Or there's sure to be a riot;
We will keep it deadly quiet
So that we may scoop the Scoop.

SIR C. W. So while the haughty herbalists do plead their
mighty cause,
And business-making grocers beg a short tri-mensual pause,
We sit still and do nothing; for we don't know what to do,
And we've carefully refrained from asking what the experts
knew.

THE TRIO. Yes, we make a point of never
Seeking information ever;
For it never would do, never,
To ask anyone who knew.

SIR C. W. But when those other bodies weighty arguments
reveal

That perchance may be successful, we'll the credit promptly
steal.

For the genuine freebooter of all scruples must be rid;
And so, if they are successful, shout ye "This alone we did."

THE TRIO. An extremely brilliant notion:
First appropriate the Motion.
Then the credit—brilliant notion—
Shouting "THIS ALONE WE DID."

[Left shouting.]

THE C. & D. DIARY, 1904.

SUBSCRIBERS' OPINIONS.

(274/9.) Kindly book me for twelve months' supply of the
C. & D. Cheque 10s. herewith. I have thought of doing this
some time; but I saw the 1904 DIARY this morning, and it is
now a certainty. Please note I want the DIARY badly. (14/12/03.)

(270/34.) I have pleasure in renewing my subscription to the
C. & D. Wishing you continued success with our trade paper;
you have competitors, but no equals yet. (14/12/03.)

(255/40.) I beg to enclose cheque value 10s., and, although
rather late, shall be glad to avail myself of offer on accompanying
order-form re DIARY. I have missed the C. & D. very much this
year, and shall never take any other in again. (4/12/03.)

(244/21.) I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your very hand-
some DIARY for 1904, with many thanks for the early delivery,
which will allow me to become acquainted with the new regula-
tions re stamping of medicines. (16/12/03.)

(246/10.) May I be allowed to congratulate you on your DIARY,
which excels its splendid predecessors, and is a monument of your
patient and systematic work for the good of the whole trade at
this troublous time? (16/12/03.)

(245/20.) Diary to hand. It is first-class as usual, and bigger.
(16/12/03.)

(275/38.) I send cheque 1l. renewal sub. and for "Pharm.
Form." Supplement. DIARY to hand this morning. I think the
formulæ are admirably arranged. I had not the slightest difficulty
in "spotting" those I sent. (15/12/03.)

(245/65.) I have just received THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS'
DIARY for 1904, and wish to thank you. I think it such a well-
got-up and most useful book, and the advertisements are splendid.
I have shown the DIARY to the medical staff, and they are sur-
prised at such a well-published book in the form of a diary. I
shall find it most useful, as I do the weekly numbers of THE
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. I have a large dispensary here to
manage, and do all the dispensing for in and out patients, of
whom we have a great number. (16/12/03.)



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Abies and Picea.

SIR,—The object of my reply to Mr. J. G. Sangster's letter was to show that the last edition of the British Pharmacopœia was quite up to date with the most recent publications on systematic botany. If Mr Sangster's object was merely to clear up difficulties of his own, I should have thought that the diagnostic characters given in my letter would have enabled him to settle the question which he now states was the point of his letter—viz., "What is an *Abies* and what is a *Picea*?" As he asks for further expert authority on the matter, I will quote from Engler and Prantl's "Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien," bearing date 1837-83, Teil ii., Abtheilung i., Coniferae, page 70, translating the German for the benefit of the reader:

Picea has four-angled leaves, not collected as in *Pinus*, *Larix*, *Cedrus*, &c. into small fascicles of two to five or more, but arranged singly. The cones are pendent, with persistent scales. *Abies* has flat two-edged leaves, and the cones are erect, with deciduous scales. *Tsuga* has flat leaves, also two-edged, with pendent cones having persistent scales. *Larix* has leaves in fascicles, which, unlike the others, are deciduous.

The two works I have quoted from—viz., Bentham and Hooker's "Genera Plantarum," and Engler and Prantl's "Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien"—are the works followed by most of the leading systematic botanists of the world. There are two other points on which Mr. Sangster, judging from his last letter, appears to require information. The first is the reason for the different names given to plants by different authors. He seems to think that the different names given to *Picea excelsa* indicate different plants. They do not indicate different species, but are only synonyms, and are due to the different views held by different botanists at different times. This he would discover by a reference to the "Index Kewensis." On account of these changes in names, the Pharmacopœia authorities are bound to take the opinion of the best national systematic botanists as to the correct name to use in each succeeding edition. If the botanical experts employed by the Medical Council are not themselves systematic botanists and do not consult the best existing authorities on systematic botany, the work is fairly open to criticism. But critics should be well acquainted with their subject before they attempt to criticise or to stigmatise work as bad when it has been carefully done. The second point is as to the difference in botanists. All writers who publish text-books on botany or materia medica are not necessarily good systematic botanists, although they may be excellent authorities on physiological, histological, or other branches of the subject. Hanbury was unquestionably an excellent systematic botanist, but his work was published in 1879, five years before the "Genera Plantarum," and he had not the advantage of consulting that work.

I trust that Mr. Sangster will procure from the nearest nurseryman who supplies conifers a twig of the tree that yields Burgundy pitch, whether the nurseryman calls it *Abies excelsa*, *Picea excelsa*, or *Pinus Abies*, and judge for himself, by the characters above given, which genus it belongs to. If he has any doubt as to the plant he receives being the correct one, I shall be very pleased to forward from my garden a twig of *Picea excelsa* and *Abies balsamea*. With a sharp knife and a microscope he will learn more in half an hour than from hours spent in perusing botanical works that are already out of date.

E. M. HOLMES.

Ruthven, Sevenoaks, December 16.

The Buring Question of "Substitution."

SIR,—The judgment in the "tabloid" case seems not unlikely to have consequences extending far beyond the

products of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.; and as chemists are largely concerned in the matter, a brief consideration of the subject may be opportune at the present moment. The decision in the case clearly establishes the right of the owner to profit by the sale of his particular products, the demand for which he has created by legitimate means. "Imitation is the sincerest flattery" is a well-worn aphorism; but it is small consolation to the manufacturer who, having employed his skill and knowledge in inventing, and risked his capital in advertising his wares, finds himself robbed of his legitimate profits by unscrupulous competitors. These remarks are general, and are not intended to apply particularly to the recent case. It is also recognised that it is sometimes sought to establish unwarrantable rights. This, however, is exceptional; and there is little difficulty in recognising the right course to pursue in ordinary circumstances, when there is a desire to act "up right and down straight." The question of "Substitution" resolves itself, mainly, under two heads. On one of these both manufacturers and retailers are agreed. If a purchaser asks for "Vinolia Cream," for instance, and receives instead "Snooks's Complexion-cream" without a word of explanation, there can be no reasonable doubt that fraud is unblushingly practised. The other head lends itself to subtler distinctions. When a purchaser asks for "Fellows's Syrup of Hypophosphites" and, without requesting it, is advised that "Snooks's Syrup of Hypophosphites" is a far better as well as a much cheaper medicine, whatever view the retailer may take of his action, the manufacturer would have no hesitation in characterising it as most unfair, even if not dishonourable. There can be little doubt that, from a moral point of view, such conduct is wrong. There are plenty of excuses adducible in defence of it. "There is not a fair living profit attached to the sale of the article. My own preparation is, I am convinced, so much better. I serve my customers better by inducing them to buy articles less expensive than what they ask for. Inasmuch as I know the composition of the article that I recommend, I feel more confidence in selling it." Now, whatever form "fiscalitis" may assume in the future, free trade exists to-day. There is no necessity for a retailer to stock any particular manufacturer's products if he object to sell them when they are asked for by the consumer. All the other reasons quoted are so intimately connected with the retailer's extra pecuniary advantage, that one may well doubt the purity of objects proceeding from such mixed motives. In combating such conduct, surely the manufacturer is justified in denouncing traders who practise it. His attitude has the sympathy of the public to a very considerable extent. It behoves anyone who may be in doubt as to the proper course to pursue in the above circumstances to consider whether "honesty is not the best policy," if higher considerations do not obtain. The "man in the street" has been so fully apprised of the manufacturer's view, it is little wonder that this very ordinary individual should assume the retailer capable of any action which would carry an extra profit who attempts this form of substitution. There is another phase of this question on which the manufacturer and retailer disagree. The former claims to have created a demand for a particular article or class of products and considers that under all circumstances, his goods should, in consequence, always be supplied even if not distinctly specified. The conditions in these circumstances differ from the last consideration. If a customer ask a retailer's advice, then there can surely be no doubt whatever that the latter is justified in giving it. This may not be advantageous to the proprietor of an article. The latter's claim that unless he had popularised his preparation the customer would probably never have heard of the remedy, and that the retailer in consequence would not have enjoyed any sale, is untenable. Unless the customer's need had been created through reading some advertisement, it is clear that, when necessity demanded, the retailer's advice would have been sought. No known system of equity could discriminate the proportion of credit and profit due to an advertiser for creating fictitious ailments. It might be (not altogether absurdly) contended that he ought to incur responsibility for doing so. Hence, if a customer seeks the retailer's opinion as to the respective merits of, e.g., "Carter's Little Liver Pills" at 1s. 1½d. and his own "Podophyllum and Taraxacum Liver Granules" at 6d., let him by all means advise his customer accordingly.

The retailer would, however, be well advised in shunning any action which should lay him open to the charge of passing off other goods to the detriment of the purchaser and manufacturer of the goods demanded. A caution of this kind is not generally needed. It is, however, believed to be justified by the general discredit which results from the exposure of the "black sheep" in any craft. The good name and fair fame of the chemist are assets of too much worth to be lightly valued. Whatever defence might formerly have been urged in favour of "substitution," none can equal in value the development of the line which has been recently opened out for chemists by the Glyn-Jones decision. "Educate the public" and the proprietaries, designated nostrums, may be left to take care of themselves.

Yours truly,

UNBIASSED. (249/57.)

"Elementary Dispensing Practice."

SIR,—An important addition to pharmaceutical literature is the book bearing the above title, written by the well-known expert Mr. Joseph Ince, and which you have recently published. A perusal of the first few pages is sufficient to show the graceful and characteristic style of the author. The lengthy Latin instructions with translations and grammatical references remind one of another interesting book which should be in the library of every student of pharmacy and medicine—viz., Ince's "Latin Grammar."

"Elementary Dispensing Practice" seems to link the present with the past. We are given examples of a few old-fashioned prescriptions, which are distinctly interesting, while the remainder are those of up-to-date, well-recognised formulae. Armed with these volumes no aspirant to pharmaceutical honours should have any difficulty in the examination-room or at the dispensing-counter. The advanced dispenser will read the book with great interest, not only for its associations, but to freshen his memory in prescriptions which, on account of their rareness, he is apt to have somewhat forgotten.

The book opens with the tables of weights and measures, and I think it would have been better if the metric system had been included, so as to have made the subject more complete. The various divisions of dispensing are admirably classified in a somewhat original manner, and are easy to refer to. Over twenty different headings are required to complete the work. Those on mixtures requiring the application and non-application of heat, diffusion, and suspension, are of value to every dispenser. I notice, however, the clogging propensities of the bismuth-subnitrate mixtures, and the probable inconvenient change which takes place when the subnitrate is dispensed with an alkaline carbonate, are passed over without comment. This is an important omission, because such combinations have often given rise to trouble. Effervescent mixtures are worked out with much detail, and that chapter is one which medical men should read to their advantage. Pill-excipients, varnishing, and special mention of the various useful methods of dispensing such pills as rhubarb, camphor, creosote, carbolic, and quinine will be read with much interest by all dispensers.

Were it not for the consideration I have for the value of your space, I feel it would be easy to considerably extend this note on my appreciation of the work by our distinguished past-master on so important a subject, and I, as a humble student of the art of dispensing, welcome his work, and consider it a useful half-way volume to that digest in pharmacy, "The Art of Dispensing."

Yours truly,

GEORGE ROE.

Apothecaries' Assistants.

SIR,—I am not registered under the Pharmacy Acts, but am an assistant apothecary, registered by the Society of Apothecaries of London, and having passed their examination in Pharmaceutical and General Chemistry, and holding their testament, I am obliged to ask you to inform your readers, under these circumstances, upon what grounds you base your statement that I am "not a registered chemist?" As in the opinion of an eminent lawyer, "the statutory rights of apothecaries, L.S.A.s, and assistants to apothecaries, are entirely separate," your statement to the contrary fails to convince me. With "L.S.A.Lond. and L.A.H. Dub." I agree up to a point. I maintain that the assistant is qualified to assist *any* apothecary. From 1815 the licensed

and unlicensed, or regular and irregular, apothecary existed; in the fifties the licensed became registered medical practitioners, the unlicensed became pharmacutists. I expected better things from "Xrayser," but it seems to me the *x* rays are not a suitable medium for throwing light on old Acts of Parliament. I tried to show that, in allowing irregular apothecaries to register, by prescription alone, and excluding assistants, who were entitled to consideration, both by statutory and prescriptive rights (unless they came within the exception as legally-qualified apothecaries), the Act of 1868 was unreasonable, and therefore unconstitutional.

It is a general principle in law, that where a statute makes a deed void, or when it is void at common law, as being *contra bonos mores*, the proof of invalidity may be collected not only from the instrument itself, but from circumstances, which though they do not appear on the face of the deed (certificate A.S.A.) may be taken into consideration. ('Law of Evidence.')

I intended not to bring a sword, but peace, acting on the theory that the best way to preserve peace is to prepare for war; and as it may be policy, on the part of a soldier, to let his friends, the enemy, see the muzzles of some of his guns, it would be unwise for him to discover all his defences and fortifications. Would it not be wise for all who exercise in any legal form the beautiful art and mystery of the apothecary to unite and aim at its advancement pacifically?

Divide the thunder into single notes,
And it is but a lullaby for children.
But pour it in one volume on the air,
And its intensity makes heaven to shake.

Yours, &c.,

A. S. A. (219/47)

SIR,—With reference to Mr. A. Mowbray's correspondence *re* Apothecaries' Assistants, may I offer my sincere thanks for the action taken by the Apothecaries' Hall, London? I am of opinion that it is advisable for all assistants to support the endeavour now being made to obtain recognition of their qualification; it appears to me that pharmaceutical men forget that the qualification by "examination" of the apothecaries' assistants of London was legalised many years before the passing of the Pharmacy Act, and I have no doubt that they were intended to be included with the Licentiates in the Pharmacy Act, but not being definitely defined in the Act the Pharmaceutical Society are now taking a mean advantage of clause 16. As assistants of Apothecaries' Hall are qualified to take up appointments as dispensers in public institutions, hospitals, Government appointments, and to doctors, it is only fair to claim that they are also qualified to perform the same duties in an open shop as long as the title of chemist and druggist is not infringed. It would be far better for all concerned if more unity was practised; all qualifications are held out as being for the safety of the public—not for monopoly—and, therefore, they who, being qualified by examination, are allowed to dispense for hospitals, Government institutions, and doctors, should in all common justice be allowed the same scope in open shop. A great many chemists have never passed any examination—some only a modified one; many apothecaries' assistants of England and Ireland have gone through the same course of study as Minor men of the Pharmaceutical Society, but have not been able, owing to various circumstances beyond their control, to sit for the Minor examination. Let all apothecaries' assistants, in all parts of the United Kingdom, combine, and get the question settled. Reciprocity will do more good than abuse between qualified men, and will frustrate our common enemy—the unqualified man. If the Pharmaceutical Society are not agreeable to meet us in this matter, I would suggest that the same opposition be offered by the Apothecaries' Hall to their prospective Bill as was done with the last one.

J. L. D. DEVONIA. (207/7.)

SIR,—Your correspondent, "L.S.A.Lond., L.A.H.Dubl.," is quite correct in thinking that the apothecaries' assistants would not do themselves any good by appealing in the Bradford case, but I am unaware that they ever intended appealing, for they were not consulted in the matter at all, the defence being conducted privately, and not under the auspices of the Association in any shape or form. The necessary amendment to the Pharmacy Bill will in due time be placed before the powers that be, but we shall not seek

for registration under any Pharmacy Act whatsoever—we shall simply claim exemption from the provisions of the proposed Bill, on the grounds of our qualifying certificate. Your correspondent suggests that, as "various qualifications are admitted to the medical and dental registers, why should they not to the pharmaceutical?" The answer why they should not is simple. It is because we claim no connection with the Pharmaceutical Societies, and that we want a register of our own, under the direct supervision and control of the General Medical Council. A part of "L.S.A.'s" letter, which, I think, is open to contention, is the statement that the assistant-apothecary may only dispense or sell poisons in the shop of an apothecary qualified by the same Hall whence the assistant's certificate is derived. I am certified as being competent to act as an assistant to an apothecary, but my certificate does not state whether or not that apothecary is licensed by the London or Dublin Hall: hence, I consider, that I am qualified to act in conjunction with either one or the other, or to the medical practitioner generally. Again, the Clerk to the Society of Apothecaries has given it as his opinion that the holder of the London certificate may, and is entitled by law, to dispense the prescription, and hand it to the customer, whether the same does, or does not, contain a scheduled poison. Of course, this is only his own *obiter dictum*. I have had the honour of sending to Mr. Upton and Dr. Montgomery the following copy of a Resolution passed at the General Meeting of the Association of Assistant Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Halls:

That it is the wish of this meeting that the title "Apothecary" or "Dispensing Apothecary" be conceded to those holding the assistants' certificate of the Society of Apothecaries of London, or the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. A. Mowbray Upton, Clerk to the Society of Apothecaries of London, and to Dr. Robert Montgomery, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.A.H.I., Secretary of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, with a request that it should be placed before the Master and Wardens of the former, and the Governor and Directors of the latter, with a view of obtaining their influence and support for any charter, addition to, or omission from, a present charter which may be necessary to secure the desired title.

In the hands of these gentlemen we are quite willing the matter should rest for the present, though it must not be lost sight of that the General Medical Council alone have the decision in the matter, and, as Mr. Brumwell, Ph. C., said at the meeting: "We mean to have recognition, if we have to wait six years for it." I think it is well understood that a L.S.A.Lond., or a L.A.H.I., is equally an apothecary (now a triply-qualified medical practitioner). After graduating, these gentlemen are not legally qualified to practise, nor may they use any medical title, until they have paid the prescribed fee of 5*l*. To be registered by the General Medical Council—their assistants, the Hall-qualified dispenser, also demand this right; they have undergone an examination, and are willing to purchase their registration, so long as it carries with it a title; and what better one could be adopted than the one we have chosen, *i.e.*, "Apothecary" or "Dispensing Apothecary," which titles are now, practically speaking, obsolete?

Faithfully yours,

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, D.D.S.,

Hon. Sec. to the Association of Assistant Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Halls, London and Dublin.

Bradford.

The Quinine Mixture.

SIR,—I find I am reported as having said at the last meeting of the Western Chemists' Association (*C. & D.*, December 19, page 1019), *re* the dispensing problem raised by Mr. Worsley, that in my own pharmacy I should "omit the acid and suspend the quinine as had been suggested." This is an error. What I said was, "I should suspend it"—*i.e.*, the precipitate formed—but certainly had no intention of omitting the acid.

Yours faithfully,

W. FRED. GULLIVER.

6 Lower Belgrave Street, S.W., December 20.

Exported Ammonia.

SIR,—Having again narrowly escaped injury through opening a Winchester quart of liq. ammon. fort., I beg for space in your columns to ask the wholesalers to devise some safer means of packing than the ordinary glass-stoppered

Winchester. To-day, as usual, the stopper was immovable, so I placed the Winchester in a bucket outside the door, and putting my arm outside knocked the neck clean off. Result—a spurt of ammonia going 10 feet high, vapour making the shop untenable for ten minutes, and half the ammonia lost. Serious accidents have occurred through want of extreme care in opening, and probably will again. A rubber cork or vulcanite screw-stopper would be better, though considerable care would still need to be exercised, as owing to high temperature the gas rushes off very rapidly. This seems a little matter to write about, but it is really no joke to be nearly blinded and suffocated, to say nothing of getting only 2 pints of ammonia out of a Winchester quart.

Yours faithfully,

Mafeking, C.C., November 24.

NH₃. (249/67.)

Letters in Brief.

CO-OPS. AND P.A.T.A. GOODS.—*Fair Trade* (245/59) writes in reference to Scott's emulsion that to get best terms he bought 10*l*. worth direct, fully expecting the entire trade in the article would be governed by the one price stipulated. He learns now that the co-operative stores in his town are selling the 2*s*. 6*d*. size at 1*s*. 10*d*., and giving check on same, which, with dividend, reduces the cost to the customer to a less price than he paid for 10*l*. worth. "Fair Trade" thinks the P.A.T.A. thus binds the retail section and not the wholesale.

BLAUD PILLS, B.P.—*V.* (240/51) writes: "I believe sugar-coated pills to be much better than pearl-coated on account of their solubility, but the sugar-coating has, of necessity, to be so thick that a 3-gr. sugar-coated pill is nearly as large as a 5-gr. pearl-coated pill. Can I sell a 3-gr. pil. ferri as Bland pill—a good make like P. D. & Co.'s containing 20 per cent. or more of ferrous carb.—or must it be a 5-gr. pill = 1 gr. ferrous carb. to meet the requirements of the B.P.? My impression is that so long as the pill contains 20 per cent. of ferrous carb. it may be 1 gr., 3 gr., or any size. Is this correct?" [There is no B.P. declaration as to what size pil. ferri should be, but it is wise for the retailer to state the size when he sells them. The letters "B.P." mean that an article is prepared according to the formula of the British Pharmacopoeia, and are of B.P. strength. The latter does not necessarily include the former.]

Elmina Letters.

Mr. F. M. Fisk, European manager for Messrs. Parke Davis & Co., sends us the subjoined two letters which he received by a recent mail from the Gold Coast. They are a style of epistle common in many a mail-basket, and, with Mr. Fisk, we hope that no pharmaceutical firms respond to such requests otherwise than with silence:

DEAR SIR,—As I was going to my forest one morning I found some news paper that has torn to pieces; but being as I have found many firms so useful, I took an understanding and read it. And having read it your famous name, address, and recommendation appeared. This gave me an idea to write and ask from you a "General Samples of assorted medicines and your pictures together with your price list to see and select some for ordering. Hoping that you will not fail to forward per parcel post,

I remain yours truly

J. H. MENSAB.

DEAR SIR,—Having heard your good recommendation by a certain friend of mine, that you are the best Merchant. I therefore have a little Opportunity to write you for a parcel Samples contain all sort of your article. Catalogue, Almanac, & Price list or anything in your Dept. in order to see & quote of your Price's & forward you my order's as quick as possible. Awaiting your quick reply. Customer's aware of my writing you & oblige. With Compliment to you and firms

I am your's truly

CHARLES TANDOH Esq.

Dispensing Notes.

Iodides and Ether.

SIR,—I got the following prescription to dispense:

Ammon. carb.	...	...	...	gr. xxvj.
Potass. bromid.	...	...	...	3iiss.
Potass. ioidid.	...	...	...	3j.
Spt. ætheris	...	...	...	3iv.
Aquam ad	...	...	...	3iv.

On adding the spirit of ether the mixture turned red-yellow, and allowing it to stand till the morning the liquid part

became colourless, there was a yellow deposit at the bottom of the bottle with a very decided smell of iodoform. Can you describe the change with the odour of iodoform? I thought it would be interesting to your readers. I find the *C. & D.* very useful. I am, yours faithfully,

Wick, December 12.

D. S. WATERS.

[Ether ought not to react with potassium iodide, and it is so produced by manufacturers; but it does after it has been exposed to sunlight for some time. This is due to the formation of a peroxide in the ether—hydrogen peroxide probably. This reacting with the alkaline iodide liberates iodine, which in turn reacts with ethyl alcohol to form iodoform, as observed by our correspondent. There is scope for a little experiment in the prescription, using fresh ether, old spirit of ether, and so on. We should be glad to hear of the results from our correspondent or any others who try.]

Quinine and Iodide Mixtures.

SIR,—Re the "Dispensing Problem" on page 1019 of last week's issue, I should like to say that I fail to see the difficulty Mr. Worsley points out. I made the mixture up by dissolving the pot. iodid. in $\frac{1}{2}$ ix. aq. dest., dissolving the quin. sulph. with the ac. sulph. dil., and diluting to $\frac{1}{2}$ ij. and mixing the solutions, and after standing for seventy-two hours there was not the slightest precipitate or coloration. I then made a second mixture, this time dissolving the pot. iodid. in $\frac{1}{2}$ ij. aq. dest., and diluting the quin. sulph. solution to $\frac{1}{2}$ ix. before mixing, and again, after standing twenty-four hours, there was neither precipitate nor coloration. At the time of making the second mixture I added to the first one, which had already stood for seventy-two hours, another 24 minims ac. sulph. dil., and after standing for a further twenty-four hours there was the merest trace of a yellow colour, but no sign of a precipitate. As an experiment I also made three $\frac{1}{2}$ j. solutions, each containing gr. vj. pot. iodid., and added to No. 1 ac. hydrochlor. *pur.* $\frac{1}{2}$ ij., No. 2 ac. sulph. *pur.* $\frac{1}{2}$ ij., No. 3 ac. nitric. *pur.* $\frac{1}{2}$ ij. After twenty-four hours those containing the HCl and H_2SO_4 were quite colourless, while that containing the HNO_3 was of a bright-yellow colour. I am constantly dispensing mixtures containing quin. sulph., pot. iodid., and ac. sulph. dil., and experience no difficulty with them unless there is a large quantity of acid present, which is not the case in the mixture under discussion. I am of opinion that, except in the case of HNO_3 , a stronger acid solution is required to liberate iodine from KI than is often supposed, but should be pleased to know the experience of other readers.

Faithfully yours,

Rugby, December 22.

H. B. WILLSON, M.P.S.

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1904, before formulating Queries.

241/23. *Chiretta* asks if a medicine put up in Ireland, advertised in English papers, and sent by parcel direct from Ireland to customer, is liable to be stamped.

[Not by the manufacturer in Ireland, nor by the customer if he purchases for consumption; but if the customer utters or vend the medicine in Great Britain or keep it for that purpose it must be stamped by him.]

242/14. *Ailment*.—The only way out of the difficulty is to get the purchaser to give you bills for the instalments.

248/11. *Indian* (a qualified chemist) proposes to use the following wording on "iodised sarsaparilla, the blood-purifier," and asks us if the medicine will be exempt from stamp-duty: "Prepared according to No. 1, 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,' page 555, sine Fowler's solution." We consider this a sufficient disclosure. He also asks if "composed of salicylic acid and cannabis indica" is sufficient for a corn-plaster label, these being the active ingredients of the plaster. Yes.

245/55. *Nemo*.—Payment of fees to witnesses in police-court cases is in the discretion of the Magistrate. In county-court cases chemists and druggists are entitled to 7s. 6d. to 15s. per day.

251/27. *Sundries* (Cardiff).—You will find all the information you require in our 1904 DIARY.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

163/72. *Torquay*.—Thymol Tooth-paste.—The following is in use, but is somewhat strongly flavoured for many people:

Cretæ gall. ...	...	...	...	...	3viij.
Thymoli ...	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. saponis...	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Pulv. sacch. alb.	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Pulv. acaciæ ...	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. menth. pip.	...	...	...	...	3j.
Ol. gaultheriæ ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Glycerini et mellis aa.	...	...	...	...	q.s.

Ut fiat pasta.

189/38. *Gum*.—Mounting Stamp-photographs.—A dextrin mucilage is considered the thing for mounting stamp-photographs, but most of the special mountants sold for photographers' use answer the purpose very well. Perhaps you have in view some special preparation.

176/7. *Boilers*.—The powders for making a Boiler-fluid are powdered extracts of some tannin-yielding plant, but it is not possible to identify the source with certainty.

173/34. *A. E. B.*—Bee-food.—The older practice is to give the bees a thick sugar-syrup to which a little vinegar has been added. An automatic contrivance is used by which the supply is maintained in the hive. The modern practice is to give a semi-solid food of sugar and lentil-flour to which a little cream of tartar and beta-naphthol are added. The antiseptic is a most important addition as it prevents that bane of beekeepers—foul brood. A formula for the food was given in the *C. & D.*, July 26, 1902, page 180.

243/21. *M. C.*—"Pharmacopædia" covers a wider range than the other book mentioned, and is, on the whole, better for the Minor student who is a painstaking reader.

184/59. *A. H. M.*—(1) The Skin-paste is apparently a perfumed spermaceti ointment. The odour is a mixture of rose-geranium and santal. (2) Cucumber-emulsion should contain cucumber in some form. The title seems to refer to the milky mixture resulting when emulsifying cucumber-pomade in such a formula as the following:

Curd soap ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Cucumber ointment...	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Spirit of cucumber ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Oil of rose-geranium ...	...	...	...	...	℥xv.
Distilled water ...	...	...	...	...	5xv.

(3) Shampoo-liquid.—There are obvious limitations to cheapness in a spirituous shampoo because in proportion as the spirit is reduced the wash loses its "dryness." Lin. saponis B.P. may be taken as a type of a saponaceous dry shampoo.

175/15. *J. H.*—Hair-dye.—There are limitations to the powers of an analyst. In the case of the dye you sent the chief analytical point was that pyrogallol was the active agent. If the suggested formula does not yield as strong a preparation as you desire, the pyrogallol should be increased in quantity and some ammonia added. There is no metallic ingredient in the sample sent; we have not, however, like your customer, ventured to test it.

208/29. *Canine*.—Horse-powders.—There is no arsenic or nux vomica in the sample. We make the powder to have a composition like the following:

Pulv. cort. cinchonæ ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Sulph. sublim. ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Sodii sulphatis ...	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Potass. nitr. ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Pulv. gentianæ ...	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Pulv. fœnugræski ...	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. glycyrrhizæ ...	...	...	...	...	3iv.

M.

172/25. *Erica*.—Eczema in Dogs.—The application is linseed oil with a little sublimed sulphur in suspension. Is it an internal or external remedy?

241/47. *D. F. A.*.—Mist. *Ol. Morrhuæ c. Ferro* (Great Ormond Street) consists of equal parts of cod-liver oil and steel-wine, with potassium carbonate 1 gr. to the ounce.

185/60. *A. W. & Co.*.—Powder to Make Hens Lay in Winter.—The warming-ingredient is powdered cayenne, and the calcium phosphate present probably contributes to the happy result aimed at. Try a powder made up as this:

Fine bran	...	...	...	lb. ss.
Ground rice	...	...	...	lb. ss.
Sodium bicarbonate	...	...	...	3ij.
Powdered cayenne	...	...	...	5iv.
Calcium phosphate	...	...	...	3ij.

Mix.

Two ounces in the food of twelve fowls is about the daily dose. The food should be given warm.

178/32. *C. D.*.—The samples of pigeons' pills are insufficient for analysis.

172/50. *Iolo*.—Liniment.—Turpentine and camphor are predominant, but the composition is not of general interest to our readers.

187/51. *W. E. M.*.—The Sachet-powder is a matter for synthesis rather than analytical examination. We have no doubt about lavender, rose, and a mint being present, but we cannot materialise the subtler ingredients.

205/70. *Kali*.—The combined Curb-liquid and Ring-worm-lotion is of the nature of Vlemnick's solution (liq. calcis sulphur.). By age, however, the liquid has become modified.

186/13. *D. J.*.—Is the solution you send a hair-dye or hair-bleach? We suspect the last-named, as the liquid only gives indications of mineral acid.

215/9. *Disenchanted*.—Pruritus ointment.—Dr. Bulkley's formula, as given in the *London Medical Record*, is—

Pulv. camphore	...	...	...	5j.
Chloral. hydratis	...	...	...	5j.
Ung. aquæ rosæ	...	...	...	5j.

Rub the camphor and chloral together till liquefied, and add gradually to the cold-cream.

149/45. *H. A. W.*.—Foot-rot Ointment.—This contains copper acetate and tar-compound resembling cresolin. Use as a basis resin-ointment.

203/49. *R. W. B.*.—Pine Bath Extract.—We understand this to be an aqueous extract of the twigs of Scotch fir, to which probably some additional pine oil is added.

228/5. *Plumbi*.—The Amulet is made of a basis of orris-root perfumed with santal, patchouli, and rose. The powder is massed with spirit and pressed into shape.

205/33. *W. N.*.—(1) Recovering Indiarubber.—This is managed by maceration in carbon bisulphide or benzine. Special distillates are prepared by the tar-distillers for rubber-solvent purposes. (2) Weber's "Chemistry of Indiarubber" (Griffin, 16s.), which was reviewed in the *C. & D.*, January 31, 1903, seems the book you are wanting.

208/5. *G. S. B.*.—Laurel Oil or Huile de Laurier, used on the Continent to keep flies out of houses, is the expressed oil of *Laurus nobilis*.

153/13. *Orientalist*.—You can use alcohol in place of spt. ammon. arom. as a solvent of podophyllin, but the alkaline spirit is preferable.

209/13. *Rumex* (Barcelona).—(1) Casein is being employed in large quantities as an emulsent and for sizing-purposes. Recent patented processes employ casein for solidifying paraffin and for coating wine-corks. (2) We do not quite understand your question on silica. (3) Daumin is probably the shellac substitute you refer to.

Messrs. Daum & Co.,[†] Wiesbaden, are the patentees. (4) Kepler extract of malt is made of various medications. Cod-liver oil is easily detected by the smell, and hypophosphites are tested for in an aqueous solution of the extract.

226/35. *Amicus*.—Ballroom-floor Powder.—This is a mixture of powdered hard paraffin (1) and powdered boric acid (4), with a little perfume and colouring.

224/30. *Analysis*.—Winter Blyth's "Foods: their Composition and Analysis" (Griffin, 16s.) covers the ground you want, but for exact work special treatises on particular subjects will be needed.

224/22. *W. K. S.*.—Rendering Cotton and Wool Non-inflammable.—Tungstate of soda is the recognised chemical for rendering fabrics fireproof. See also the note in the *C. & D.*, May 30, 1902, page 851, where a patented process is given for precipitating tungstate in the fibres of flannelette.

226/66. *T. W. T.*.—Restoring Faded Writing on old parchment.—We hesitate to advise you in this matter from the fact that the methods differ. You will require to put into practice your chemical knowledge. For instance, a subscriber once told us he was very successful in restoring old writing by first exposing the writing to the fumes of hydrochloric acid and then brushing on a dilute solution of potassium ferrocyanide. On the other hand, we have known liq. ferri, diluted with water, render an otherwise illegible ink visible. Conduct a few experiments on some of the least important parts of the manuscript.

251/19. *Buchu*.—(1) Copyright.—An index is kept at Stationers' Hall of copyright books or works of art, which can be searched for a fee of 1s. Registered designs (which are made at a branch of the Patent Office) are required to be marked "Regd." or "Rd.," so that there is no difficulty in telling if such a design is registered. (2) It has not been decided whether creosote is a legal poison. It depends upon whether it is looked upon as a homologue of carbolic acid or not.

154/52. *Dye*.—Hair-dye.—We have several times lately given formulas for one-solution hair-dyes, and you can see others in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

197/31. *Vicum*.—Oxymel Scillæ.—Your difficulty in regard to the varying yield of acetum is not in accord with our experience. We have found the B.P. estimate of 10 fl. oz. very near the mark when operating on eight times the quantity. In making the oxymel it is usual to start with one part of acetum to four parts of honey and correct the product, if need be, to the B.P. sp. gr. The better plan is obviously to start with a definite quantity somewhere.

153/30. *Ajax*.—(1) Senna, Salts, and Sarsaparilla.—A penny packet of this compound contains but a small quantity of last-named ingredient. With senna and sarsaparilla in coarse powder and Epsom salts you can compound a mixture to suit any price. (2) Manufacture of Night-lights. Cut one of the night-lights in two and you will see that no "formula" is required. The process is mechanical, plaster-of-Paris and paraffin-wax with a wick being the ingredients.

211/27. *Gasworks*.—Books on the Manufacture of Coal-gas.—Richards's "Treatise on the Manufacture and Distribution of Coal-gas" (Spon, 28s.), Burns's "Illuminating and Heating Gas" (Spon, 5s.), are two suitable treatises.

221/70. *G. R. H.*.—Worm-powders for Pigs.—These should contain either santolin (5 gr. or 10 gr.) or powdered areca-nuts (30 gr. to 60 gr.). These anthelmintics are diluted with an inert powder such as powdered liquorice. A different class of powder, containing sulphur, salt, and iron sulphate, is represented by a formula in the *C. & D.*, October 25, 1902, page 716.

225/14. *Booco*.—Liq. violæ is an indefinite liquid, but probably already contains spirit. Sugar, being less soluble in spirit than in water, is partially thrown out. Omit the additional alcohol.

202/21. *W. W.*—Acid-proof Paint.—We give the following for what it is worth, as it does not strike us as a hopeful method: Clean the ironwork with soap and water, and when quite dry go over it with a stiff brush dipped in hot linseed oil. When the oil coating is tacky apply a coating of the following:

Powdered glass or flint	...	...	4 parts
Lime, freshly burnt	...	...	1 part
Bath-brick	...	...	2 parts
Silicate-of-soda solution	...	...	3 parts

203/52 (*X. Y. Z.*) and 222/25 (*Norway*).—Deodorising Cod-liver Oil.—The oil should be washed with warm water and allowed to separate. The process should be repeated two or three times, and the first-washing water may be made alkaline with sodium carbonate. There is considerable loss of oil in following out this method.

148/42. *E. F. G.*—There is no pamphlet that we know of on the distillation of perfume from flowers. The subject is dealt with in most works on pharmacy, but, as you know, distillation-methods are not always used to obtain perfume from flowers.

202/33. *Nemo*.—Restoring Camera-case.—Unless you have much of this work to do, your better plan would be to use one of the numerous dressings sold for black-kid boots. We have several times indicated the composition of such a polish if you prefer to make it.

201/71. *L'Encre*.—Branding Oysters.—Your question opens up an interesting problem which will need to be worked out experimentally before a satisfactory result is obtained. The simplest and hence most suitable process would be to mark the oyster-shells with a cutting-tool or emery-wheel. A cutting-tool could be obtained to give a ring and centre design, and this driven by a motor could be fairly quickly applied. An emery-wheel could be selected to give some simple design, such as a cross or double-limbed cross. A spirituous solution of red sealing-wax would be a suitable fluid if it is found that a branding method is preferable. Sand-blasting is another agent that might be employed, but an installation would run into a good deal of money.

7/4. *Saxon*.—Pink Colouring for mixtures.—Croceine scarlet or tincture of cudbear (1 in 8) would be suited for the acid mixtures, whilst tincture of Brazil wood or Bordeaux box would give a suitable colour with an alkaline mixture. You should note, however, that the colour might be affected by the particular ingredients of the mixture.

187/73. *Benzine*.—Worm-powder for Dogs.—This is a compound powder best represented by the following:

Potassium acetate	...	...	3j.
Sodium hydrate	...	...	3j.
Ammonium carbonate	...	...	3iv.

Mix.

The dose is 30 gr. in a pill each morning fasting.

152/62. *W. S.*—Fire-extinguisher.—We do not know what your customer refers to when he inquires for a manganese fire-extinguisher. The older extinguishers consist of sodium carbonate and an acid (either mineral or vegetable). Water impregnated with the carbonic-acid gas given off is directed on the fire, and is said to be very effectual. For this reason a syphon of soda-water has been found to be an efficient extincateur. The bottles of liquid which one sees in offices contain a solution something after this style:

Sodium chloride	...	...	3j.
Sodium nitrate	...	...	3j.
Ammonium chloride	...	...	3j.
Magnesium chloride	...	...	3iv.
Water	...	...	Oj.

A fire-extinguishing powder which we recently received was found on analysis to be common salt. As to the efficacy of chemical fire-extinguishers, there is much to be said in favour of the carbonic-acid-gas engine (see *C. & D.*, July 25, page 121), but unless the apparatus is kept in perfect order it is better to trust to plain water.

227/22. *Chilblain*.—Sulphurous acid or solution of sodium hyposulphite removes iodine-stains from the skin.

246/25. *Cheshire*.—Base for Carbolic Tooth-powder.—A mixture of kaolin (3) and kieselguhr (1) is good as a basis for carbolic powders. See a formula given in the *C. & D.*, May 9, page 757.

252/03. *C. H. C. F.*—"The Brewing of Non-excisable Beers," by J. Pocock, published by Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co. (Limited), will suit you.

204/66. *X. Y. Z.*—Poultry fanciers use solution of erythrosin for tinting white spots on the lobes of game cocks. The erythrosin is used in the proportion of 3 to 5 gr. in 1 oz. of proof spirit.

247/31. *Cognosco*.—You will find all particulars about education for analytical chemistry in our issue of August 15, 1903.

234/47. *Nobl*.—Your previous inquiry was answered in the *C. & D.*, November 28, page 916.

229/1. *Iron Ox.*—"Oil of aaron" is probably a corruption of oil of heron, an oil prepared, like genuine oil of swallows, by boiling the bird in oil. "Oil of pigeon" has a similar significance. As ingredients in a horse "enticer" something more than oleum viride is indicated.

169/3. *C. J. W.*—Waste-products.—Naylor's "Trades Waste: its Treatment and Utilisation" (21s., Griffin), is the only book we recollect to have seen on this subject.

208/6. *Soda Carb.*—(1) If you partly saturate the water of the acetylene generator with salt the freezing-point will be considerably reduced. Glycerin or oil is not so suitable. (2) The Coloured Supplement is the best medium in the pharmaceutical world for disposing of the bound journals.

Information Wanted.

274/35. Where can goose oil be obtained?

233/12. Who are the makers of Premier asthmatic cigarettes?

213/16. What is "malasack," said to be used as a cordial in horse training?

252/55. Name and address of makers of Tucker's asthma-specific.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

AMONG pharmacists higher education is attracting a good deal of attention just now, and an educational meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society has been arranged to take place at the rooms in Bloomsbury Square, on Wednesday, January 20. Two papers are to be considered: (1) "University Education for Pharmacists," by Professor R. B. Wild, Leech Professor of Materia Medica in the Victoria University, Manchester; (2) "Concurrent Curricula," by Mr. H. Wippell Gadd. The Chemists' Annual Ball has been arranged for the evening of the same day, on behalf of the Benevolent Fund of the Society.—From "London Day by Day," *Daily Telegraph*.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—The annual course of Christmas lectures at the Royal Institution, specially adapted to young people, will be delivered by Professor Ray Lankester, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Director of the Natural History Department of the British Museum, whose subject is "Extinct Animals." The first lecture will take place on Tuesday, December 29, at three o'clock.

LONDON COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The annual dinner and distribution of prizes will be held in the Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, on January 15. Invitations will be sent to all students, past and present. Should any student not receive his invitation by Christmas, he is requested to send a notice to the Secretary, with his present address.

"PRINTERS' INK," a leading American journal of advertising, has recently said: "In English-speaking countries the pharmaceutical authority is THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, of London. No other journal approaches it. Besides dominating Great Britain, it circulates extensively in every British Colony, and wherever there is an English druggist."

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: December 23.

THERE is very little news to report in the drug and chemical markets, business being now practically suspended for the remainder of the year. The speculative market in shellac shows a substantial decline in the absence of business and lower prices from Calcutta, but the spot market is about steady. A decidedly firmer feeling is evident in tartaric acid, while cream of tartar closes very firm. Hypophosphites have an upward tendency, as the various makers appear to be working more in harmony, the eventual outcome of which may be an advance. Saffron closes firm on the spot, and with the turn of the year some holders anticipate higher prices. Insect-flowers are firmer, and essential oils are quiet, being without sales of any importance.

ACID, CITRIC, closes firm at 1s. per lb., but it is doubtful if any can be bought forward at this figure.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Very firm, at 1s. 1½d. per lb. for English, and for forward delivery quotations are difficult to get, one maker being unwilling to sell at the above figure. Foreign is 1s. 0¾d. to 1s. 1d.

ANTIMONY.—Black sulphide lump is quoted 11s. 9d. to 12s. per cwt.

ARSENIC.—Best white English powder is firm at 14s. 6d. per cwt. in 3-cwt. casks, and 15s. 6d. in either 1-cwt. kegs or drums.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—Good alkaloidal quality is difficult to obtain; 40s. to 42s., c.i.f., is asked by one importer.

CANARIS INDICA.—Further small sales have been made at 4s. per lb.

CELERY-SEED has again advanced to 38s. to 40s. per cwt., c.i.f.

COCA-BUTTER.—The auction to be held on January 5 at Amsterdam will consist of 80 tons Van Houten's, 11 tons de Jong, and 5 tons Mignon, while on the same date in London 90 tons of Cadbury's will be offered.

COPPER SULPHATE.—This market closes firm at 20l. 10s. for Anchor brand delivery up to end of February, and 21l. for March-April; Liverpool spot and February-March 21l. 10s.; ordinary brands on the spot are quoted 19l. 5s. per ton.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Closes firm at 86s. per cwt. for B.P. powder (99 per cent.).

GRAINS OF PARADISE are easier, with sellers at 50s. per cwt.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—The year closes with signs of a better feeling, and, as we reported several weeks ago, the tendency is upwards, as the British and Continental makers are endeavouring to work more in harmony.

INSECT-FLOWERS are firmer, the following being the lowest quotations from Trieste: Open flowers 55s. to 60s., half-closed 63s. to 70s., and closed 80s. to 95s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

LYCOPodium.—Very firm at 2s. 4d. per lb. net, but it is expected that values will advance to 2s. 8d. ere long.

OIL, COD LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on December 19 that the first reports in regard to the

result of the winter's fishing show no substantial improvement in regard to size and quality. The oil market is still without animation. Stocks are quite insignificant, and buyers prefer to wait further development of the fishing before coming on the market again. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 2,308 barrels against 9,163 barrels at the corresponding date of last year. In London prices are unaltered, and for finest Norwegian on the spot 425s. to 430s. per barrel would have to be paid, and for Newfoundland 425s.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Ceylon *Oil of citronella* is firmly held at 1s. 1d. per lb. in cases. *Oil of peppermint* (HGH) closes firm at 14s. 6d. per lb. spot, but in view of the holidays very little business has been done. The price in New York is still considerably above the London parity. Small sales of Japanese dementholised oil have been made for December-January shipment at 5s. 3d., c.i.f., and spot holders continue to quote 6s. 6d. *Oil of Eucalyptus* is in fair demand and firm at 1s. 2d. per lb. for B.P. quality. *Oil of Star Aniseed* is lower for arrival, business having been done at 4s. 2d., c.i.f.

OPIUM.—The market for all descriptions has remained quiet, but steady, owing to the approaching holidays. It is pointed out that the new crop of Turkey opium coming to hand is deficient in morphine content and poor in consistency, especially as compared with last year's yield.

SMYRNA, December 11.—Large consumers who are attentively watching the market have this week profited by the uneasiness on the part of certain dealers, and the result has been that a large quantity has changed hands, principally for the United States and the Continent. Altogether some 223 cases have been sold during the past eight days, including 200 cases new and old current and Karahissar tale quale at the equivalent of from 7s. 8d. to 7s. 10d. per lb., c.i.f. terms Europe; 19 cases new and old Karahissar choice t. q. at from 8s. 1d. to 8s. 3d.; and 4 cases choice t. q. Yerli at 9s. 1d. Of the above, 18 cases were for local speculators. The market closed with a good tone, and the arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,697 cases, against 2,710 cases at the same time last year. As regards the sowings, the weather in general in many districts has been wet, which is something unusual at this time of the year, when, as a rule, 60 per cent. of the sowings are under snow. As it is now, not 15 per cent. of the young plants are covered with snow.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 18.—The market keeps steady at last prices, and about 43 cases have changed hands at 7s. 7d. for good "druggists'" to 7s. 10d. for Karahissar. Very little opium remains inland, and there will be no arrivals to replenish stocks reduced by shipments. The sales for the week amount to 30 cases druggists' at 7s. 7d., 4 cases soft at 8s. 10d., 11 cases Karahissar at 7s. 9d. per lb., f.o.b.

POTASHES.—Montreal ashes are very scarce on the spot; a nominal price is about 43s. American is quoted 41s. to 42s. per cwt.

QUININE has been very quiet, with spot sellers at 1s. 0¼d. per oz. for good German sulphate in bulk. For March a sale of 15,000 oz. is reported at 1s. 0½d., and May at 1s. 0¾d. The general tendency of the market in second-hands is weak, with buyers at 1s., but no sellers.

The exports from Java during October amounted to 405 cases, of which 62 cases were shipped to the United Kingdom and the remainder to New York. From January 1 to October 31 the shipments have been: 1903, 1,853 cases; 1902, 1,363 cases; 1901, 1,692 cases; 1900, 1,701 cases; and 1899, 1,467 cases.

SAFFRON.—The London market closes firm, and higher prices are looked for after the turn of the year.

SHELLAC.—The market has been declining this week owing to the absence of business and lower prices from Calcutta. Spot and arrival transactions have been on a limited scale at from 230s. to 233s. Fine and good orange marks are very scarce, some blocky lots having been sold at 242s. 6d. A. C. Garnet on the spot is held at 200s., and for spring shipment 180s., c.i.f., is about the price. The liquidation of December delivery goes on slowly, the value of this position being about 230s. There has been a steady decline in futures, January delivery having sold down to 219s. (a decline of 9s. since last Friday), February delivery 216s. 6d. (against 222s. last Friday), and May at 202s. (against 208s. to 209s.). For arrival 214s., c.i.f., has been paid for October-December shipment, being about 4s. lower on the week. To-day the market closes a further 2s. lower, 200 cases TN for March delivery having been sold at 206s., and May 200s., also 100 cases March at 207s.

SODA SALTS.—Nitrate is steady at 10s. per cwt. for refined, and 9s. 7½d. for ordinary. Bicarbonate in kegs is quoted 7l. 5s. per ton London, and 6l. 5s. f.o.b. Liverpool. Crystals of English make are unaltered at 65s. per ton in barrels, and 62s. 6d. in bags on the spot; Liverpool is 67s. 6d. f.o.b. Hypsulphite in kegs on the spot is quoted 6l. 10s., and casks at 5l. 10s. per ton f.o.b. Liverpool.

SPICES.—No public sales have been held this week. Privately there has been an improved demand for *Pimento* at dearer rates, about 300 bags of fair having been sold on the spot at 4d. per lb. *Pepper* has been dull, quotations being unaltered at 6½d. per lb. for fair Singapore on the spot, January-March shipment being quoted 6½d. *White pepper* is also unaltered with unimportant sales. *Cloves* have fluctuated, the market closing easier last Friday with sales at 7½d. to 7¾d. for March-May. On Monday 1,000 bales were sold at 6½d. for January-March, and 7d. to 7¼d. for March-May, and subsequently 500 bales were sold including January-March at 6½d. and March-May 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb. To-day 800 bales were sold at 6½d. for January-March, and 7½d. to 7¾d. for March-May delivery.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Good squares have been sold at 74s. on the spot, being steady.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of special importance or change to report as regards the condition of the heavy-chemical market. The general demand at all the principal centres is now a quiet one, and is likely to continue so until after the holidays. This, however, is not affecting prices at all in a downward degree, as the tone in this respect is a firm one all round.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Main products are all steady, and bleaching-powder particularly so for forward. The better tone in saltcake is also well maintained.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA in good demand and firm: Beekton forward, 12l. 15s.; Beekton terms, 12l. 5s. to 12l. 6s. 3d.; London, 12l. 7s. 6d.; Hull, 12l. 5s.; and Leith, 12l. 8s. 9d. to 12l. 10s.

BROWN ACETATE OF LIME in fair request and steady at 4l. 15s. to 4l. 17s. 6d. per ton, c.i.f.

MAGNESIUM-SALTS in average consumptive demand at unchanged values. Chloride of magnesium, 62s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per ton. Magnesium sulphate (Epsom's), 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton. Carbonate of magnesia, 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA still rule low, though firm tendency is maintained. Bichromates of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3d. per lb., less 4 per cent. Glasgow, with export figure ¼d. per lb. less and net. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 2¼d. per lb., less 4 per cent. Glasgow, and export 2d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

BENZOLS are firm, and the recent heavier demand has improved prices—90 per cent., 11d. per gal.; and 50 per cent., 7¾d. to 8d. per gal. Aniline oil and salt somewhat quiet at 4¾d. and 4½d. per lb. respectively.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, December 22.

ACID, CITRIC.—Foreign is firm at 1s. per lb. Although some makers would be willing to submit a fraction less, there is very little chance of it being accepted.

ACID, OXALIC.—Makers are unwilling to sell further forward than January to February delivery, one maker quoting 2½d. per lb., net, in Hamburg, but will not offer firm at this price.

ACID, TARTARIC.—There has been a sudden advance in foreign of ¼d. per lb., makers being firm at 12½d. to 12¾d. A further advance may possibly take place at the turn of the year.

ANISEED.—Stocks of Russian are held firmly at 23s. per cwt. For arrival possibly 20s. to 21s. might be accepted.

CAMPHOR (GERMAN).—One maker reports sales in Hamburg at 2s. per lb., and for further quantities is unwilling to sell at less.

CANARY-SEED is slightly weaker at 62s. 6d. to 65s. per quarter.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Forty-one bags of grey have been sold at auction at 86s. to 86. 6d. per cwt.

CASTOR OIL.—Small sales have been made in store of good seconds Calcutta at 2¼d. per lb.; for shipment holders are firm at recent quotations. Stocks of first-pressure French are still very limited, and held firmly at 2¾d. per lb. in store.

CREAM OF TARTAR is held firmly at the recent advance.

QUILLATA-BARK, in the absence of further arrivals, is held firmly at 21l. 10s. per ton in store.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Owing to United States makers being unable to supply any to this country just at present, and a sudden demand having sprung up, prices have advanced to 2½s. per ton. There seems every likelihood of this figure being maintained.

American Drug-market.

New York, December 8.

Business is dull, and the market has a tame and lifeless look. Transactions are small, and confined to supplying immediate wants.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Central American is in good supply, but demand is limited, and current quotations of 34c. can be shaded.

BLOOD-ROOT is firmly held, and none is now obtainable below 15c. No new supplies are expected before next season.

CASCARA is quiet and without change. A small lot of old bark has sold at 18c. New is fairly easy at 13c.

COCAINE.—The decline abroad has resulted in a further reduction of 25c., and bulk is now offered at \$3.50 per oz.

ERGOT is quiet, but irregular. Quotations range from 35c. to 40c., but supplies are readily obtainable at the inside figure.

COD-LIVER OIL continues firm, and for ordinary grade of Norwegian \$115 to \$120 is asked. There is an expectation in some quarters of further advances, and holders will only offer sparingly.

MENTHOL is selling in a small way only at \$5.40 for case lots. Buyers are holding off in anticipation of lower prices.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firmer and in upward tendency. Considerable quantities have changed hands around \$2.60, and \$2 65 is now an inside figure for bulk oil.

OPUM is weak, and quotations are nominal at \$3. A lower figure would be made to induce business.

QUININE demand has fallen off, but the market remains firm on the basis of 25c. for German in bulk.

SARSAPARILLA is weak owing to continued arrivals. Goods to arrive are offered at 10c., and spot-goods at 11c. per lb.

Palermo Lemon-crop.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade, from H.M. Consul at Palermo, reporting that the recent gales and very bad weather have destroyed great quantities of the new season's lemons in the district round about Palermo.

Amsterdam Trade.

A report on the trade, shipping, and industry of Amsterdam during 1902 has been issued by the local Chamber of Commerce this week, under the heading of drugs. The market-course of cassia fistula, cassia vera, benzoin, cubebs, copal, damar, &c., is dealt with. Business in cubebs was again insignificant, and the old stock of 566 bags was only reduced to 381 by accepting lower prices, while no new parcels appeared in the market. Of benzoin, 1,200 cases or 810 piculs were imported during 1902, against 546 cases or 810 piculs in 1903.

German Spirit-market.

The unusually high price of potatoes and the continued active demand for them for starch-manufacture and food have kept a considerable quantity of material away from the distilleries. The spirit-statistics for the month of November show that the production was considerably below the quota allowed, and the permission granted in November to increase the production 10 per cent. does not appear to have had much effect. In these circumstances it is considered necessary to take energetic measures to induce the distilleries to increase their output in order that the demand for spirit for drinking-purposes may be covered, and also the actively increasing demand for it for commercial purposes. Under the force of these unusual circumstances the Spirit Centrale has decided (1) to extend the right of production of the agricultural potato distilleries a further 10 per cent.; (2) to raise the preliminary price paid to the distillers on account (Abschlagspreis) from December 21, from 40m. to 45m.; (3) to increase the selling-price of drinking-spirit by 6m. (or 2d. per pf. gal.). Even the prices of methylated spirit, which have remained unchanged for two years, have had to be raised. The Centrale, however, have decided not to go beyond increasing the price from 20pf. to 25pf. per litre for 90 per cent., and from 25pf. to 23pf. per litre for 95 per cent., in order not to interfere with its use.

Cod-liver Oil.

In further reference to the cod-liver oil circular which was issued by a New York agent alleging that one of the largest producers of Lofoten cod-liver oil had imported a considerable quantity of Newfoundland oil and reshipped it to the United States as genuine Norwegian cod-liver oil, it now appears that a strong denial was promptly issued by the New York agent of the refiner against whom the allegations were made. "The statements contained in the said circular," he says, "are absolutely false and without foundation in fact."

METROPOLITAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY F.C. v. ST. JOHN'S, HAMMERSMITH, F.C.—The last match before Christmas was played on December 19, the College team beating their opponents by four goals to nil. The "Metros" have played eight matches and won them all, scoring 43 goals, as against 3 scored by their opponents. They are now top of the Interpharmacy League, and are making a bold bid for the Cup.